

Village Life with God

IDTG - Teacher Guide



Core Bible

DiscipleLand
Disciples for Life®

Village Life with God

Level 1 Quarter D

Disciple Targets



This quarter, your children will...

Develop Biblical Knowledge

**K
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W**

- God makes Himself known in the Bible through His character and attributes
- Bible-times people placed God at the center of community life
- People in church communities work, play, and worship God together
- God is present and active among His people

Display Christlike Character

**F
E
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L**

- Excited to know God more and more personally
- Eager to be a part of their local church
- Amazed at God's involvement with people
- Grateful that God is in charge of all aspects of life

Demonstrate Faithful Conduct

**D
O**

- Build a close, personal relationship with God
- Participate in church activities and events
- Honor God and walk with Him daily
- Memorize Bible verses to help them grow spiritually

1 Tent Living _____ *Genesis 12-13*

God leads His people to places where they can serve Him best.

2 Travel _____ *Genesis 32-33*

God shows His people the way as they travel.

3 Seasons and Weather _____ *1 Kings 17:1-7, 18:41-46*

God controls the seasons and the weather to accomplish His purposes.

4 Plants and Herbs _____ *Numbers 13-14*

God created plants and herbs for people to enjoy.

5 Animals _____ *Genesis 1-2*

God made animals for people to care for and enjoy.

6 Birds and Insects _____ *Exodus 8-10*

God designed every small creature to fulfill His purposes.

7 Marketplace _____ *Ezekiel 27:12-24*

God provides everything His people need.

8 Health and Healing _____ *2 Kings 5:1-19*

God gives His people guidelines to care for their bodies.

9 Cities _____ *Joshua 6*

God protects His people from their enemies.

10 Government _____ *Exodus 18*

God appoints human leaders to carry out His wonderful plan.

11 Marriage _____ *Genesis 24*

God created marriage for a man and woman to serve Him together.

12 Birth and Death _____ *Genesis 21, 23*

God directs the birth, life, and death of every person.

13 Review Lesson

Review the quarter's key skills and events by playing "Sheep in the Fold."

Why Discipleship?

Jesus' Master-Plan

Jesus' preeminent passion, the focus of His ministry, His earthly delight—was His twelve disciples. It is certainly true that He ministered to the masses, but Christ poured His *life* into those twelve diverse men.

Jesus modeled discipleship to His select band of followers. The Lord knew that if He failed to effectively train the twelve, His mission would ultimately fall short of its global objective. Jesus *really* loved His disciples—and they knew it! Discipleship was Christ's sole weapon to win the world. He never mentioned "Plan B."



Anatomy of a Disciple

First and foremost, Jesus Christ calls every believer to follow Him. Walking in Jesus' steps and being His disciple is the Christian's highest privilege! When we examine the lives of dynamic disciples throughout history, we consistently find three components:

- *Knowledge*—Growing disciples **KNOW** God intimately
- *Character*—Growing disciples **LOVE** God passionately
- *Conduct*—Growing disciples **SERVE** God selflessly

Effective discipleship interweaves these three dimensions—knowledge, character, and conduct.

Children's Discipleship

God has given parents primary responsibility for the spiritual training of their children. But most parents don't know where to begin. They feel overwhelmed with this responsibility. So, parents often entrust this task to the church, or to chance.

It is time for churches to encourage and equip parents to carry out their responsibility. Jesus Christ commissioned the Church with only one task—"make disciples." Disciplemaking is the most pivotal ministry that churches can provide. The vitality of the next generation of Christians hinges on the church's willingness to do so. Churches must plan purposeful ministries to disciple parents and children. ***Children's discipleship is the hope of the world!***



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Dear Teacher,

Welcome to **DiscipleLand**! This quarter transports your class to Bible times to discover *Village Life with God*!

Your children will discover what it was like to live in a Bible-times village. They'll encounter the marketplace, animals, plants, weather, and seasons familiar to the Israelites and observe how people experienced birth, travel, marriage, and even death. Along the way the kids will discover more of the awesome character and power of God. You'll build a foundation of Biblical literacy in your children that will be part of a lifelong heritage of love for God's Word and His people. Their discipleship journey continues!

We want to help make your teaching experience enjoyable and rewarding. This Teacher Guide provides you with background insights for each Bible passage, discipleship tips to train your children, and devotionals to encourage your spirit. Through your faithful service to the Lord, your students will receive exposure to the Scriptures that will have a life-changing impact!

Before you start teaching this quarter, sit down and browse through this Teacher Guide. As you prepare for each lesson, you will want to access *DiscipleLand.com* and make use of many additional free resources. These helpful tools will enable you to bring Bible-times communities to life for your children.

Have fun, invest time in prayer, and await God's dynamic work in your children. May the Lord bless your labor among His treasured ones!

In the magnificent Jesus,

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Rob Lassette

Camille Lassette

w. d. cody

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Rachel Hand

What Kids *Really* Need

(from a training series by Mark Steiner, DiscipleLand founder)

#7—Kids Need Responsibility

(Matthew 25:21; Luke 16:10)

The Situation: Children often hear, “You are so irresponsible!” Most kids desperately want to measure up to our expectations. They want to gain our approval. But sometimes adults do not show children how to be responsible in performing a duty. Our neglect results in their negligence.

The Solution: God holds each person responsible for his or her thoughts, words, and deeds. Responsibility (or irresponsibility) is a learned behavior. Unless a child is trained to be responsible, he or she will probably follow the path of peers or pleasure. If you teach your children to be faithful in small ways, they will become responsible in large matters, too.



#8—Kids Need Love

(John 13:34-35; 1 John 4:7-8)

The Situation: Kids wonder, “Does anyone really love me?” Children are aware that human love often comes with conditions and exceptions. They hear about people who are passionately “in love” who soon find themselves infatuated with someone else. They are often exposed to selfish, performance-based love that’s “here today, gone tomorrow.”

The Solution: God’s unconditional love is selfless; it remains constant regardless of circumstances. In the Bible, love is not a feeling or emotion; it is something we see in action. Love has arms and legs that serve. Love is the disciplined will and resolve to seek the welfare of others. Selfless love motivated Jesus Christ to abandon heaven’s glory. Love kept Him on the cross, paying for the sins of His beloved.



We Believe...

The one, true God exists in the form of three distinct and equal persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Bible is God’s inspired, inerrant message to all people. In His holy Word, God has revealed eternal truths that shall ever remain humankind’s final authority for all matters pertaining to life and faith.

Jesus Christ is truly God and truly Man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, and lived without sin, in perfect obedience to the Father. Christ performed great miracles and explained the kingdom of God, but was rejected by His people. He died on the cross for the sins of others, was buried, and rose victoriously to live forever.

All people are sinful by nature and deed, yet can be forgiven by God’s grace through faith in Jesus Christ. All who genuinely trust Christ are regenerated by the Holy Spirit and united with Him for eternity.

The Holy Spirit is fully God. He convicts the world of sin, indwells believers, empowers Christians to live holy lives, and distributes spiritual gifts for the edification of the Body of Christ.

Jesus Christ’s return is imminent. He will gather all who believe in Him and will establish His kingdom. All who reject Jesus Christ will endure eternal punishment in hell while those who place their faith in Christ will enjoy eternal life in heaven with Him.

How Does **DiscipleLand** Build Disciples?

DiscipleLand partners with teachers and parents to help transform children into dynamic disciples of Jesus Christ. **DiscipleLand**'s family of resources (Preschool, Kindergarten, Core Bible, and Adventure) form a comprehensive Children's Discipleship System™. In **DiscipleLand** your kids will grow to **know** God intimately, to **love** Him passionately, and to **serve** Him selflessly, reaching their peak potential as Jesus' disciples.

- They develop a reservoir of **KNOWLEDGE** based on a Biblical worldview
- They display Christlike **CHARACTER** in every area of life
- They demonstrate faithful **CONDUCT** that honors God and helps people

Core Bible challenges children to become victorious disciples during grades 1-6. Every quarter of curriculum builds on the foundation of knowledge and skills learned previously. You will equip your kids for Christian service through 24 quarters of sequential Bible curriculum. **DiscipleLand** Core Bible will help you lead your children to reach their full potential as disciples of Jesus Christ, preparing them for a lifetime of walking with God and serving Him.

What Will Your Children Learn in **DiscipleLand** Core Bible?

Levels 1–2 establish a foundation for lifelong spiritual growth. Children experience Bible-times culture as they learn to appreciate God's splendor and the Bible's power.



Level 1: Discovering God's Greatness —The LORD's Character and Qualities

This year, your children will acknowledge God—as Lord of heaven and earth. They will learn who God is, what He is like, and what He does. God directed the culture, worship practices, and lifestyles of ancient families. Kids will experience God's view of family, work, worship, and community. Join a Bible-times family and discover what God's world was like 2,000 years ago!



Level 2: Treasuring the Bible —The Purpose and Power of God's Word

This year, your children will embrace the Bible—as God's inspired and authoritative message for everyone. They will see how God has preserved His Word to transform people on every continent. Kids will cultivate a deep appreciation for the richness and power of Scripture, and the Bible will become their lifelong companion. Depend on the rock-solid Bible for God's guidance!

Levels 3–4 focus on the New Testament. Children examine the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and the birth and expansion of the early Church.



Level 3: Serving the King —Jesus Christ's Life and Ministry

This year, your children will affirm Jesus Christ—as personal Savior and Lord over all. Kids will explore every event in the Gospels: Jesus' messages, miracles, passion, and triumphant resurrection. This chronological study reveals who Jesus is, where He lived, what He did, and why. Travel in the Holy Land alongside the Man who changed the course of human history!



Level 4: Transforming the World —The Church's Mission and Message

This year, your children will encounter the Church—as God's instrument to influence the future. Kids will experience the Book of Acts and relive episodes of Christians who revolutionized the first century. The faith and dramatic deeds of these early believers turned the known world upside-down. Prepare to transform the twenty-first century with the Good News about Jesus!



Levels 5–6 highlight God’s eternal purpose and the Christian’s awesome responsibility. Preteens overview key Bible events and develop skills to flourish as devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.



Level 5: Following the Faithful

—Panorama of God’s Kingdom

This year, your children will embrace God’s Kingdom—as His magnificent plan for all eternity. Kids will view God’s plan for the ages and be challenged to walk in the footsteps of Bible champions. Students will realize that they, too, can significantly impact God’s eternal empire. Enter the “Hall of Faith” to meet godly men and women who illumined dark corners of history!



Level 6: Walking with God

—The Christian’s Highest Privilege

This year, your children will celebrate discipleship—as God’s blueprint for victorious living. For centuries, godly men and women have practiced the disciplines of personal devotions, inductive Bible study, and Christ-centered living. Your kids will develop these important skills. Take up Jesus’ challenge to count the costs and experience the joys of being His disciples!

All six levels of **DiscipleLand** Core Bible curriculum include:

- **HeartBeat** Students complete life-application activities for each lesson.
- **DiscipleSkill** Children develop 24 essential “how-to” skills for victorious Christian living.
- **KeyVerse** Kids memorize Bible verses that capture the heart of each lesson.
- **DiscipleZone.com** A special Internet site where kids go to grow! DiscipleZone forms a “bridge” between the classroom and the home.
- **SwordWork** Kids read the entire Bible and answer questions from every chapter (grades 1-12).
- **WorldWatch** Children participate in God’s kingdom strategy for world missions.
- **XploreMore** Families grow together, discussing Bible lessons and doing application activities.
- **HymnNotes** Children learn hymns that have inspired Christians for centuries.

Visit DiscipleLand.com to order resources.

DiscipleLand™ Core Bible Curriculum Map

Level One



Quarter

Title

Topic

Discovering God's Greatness —the LORD's Character and Qualities (ages 6-8)
topical Bible stories about God's people in Bible times (Children also read Mark 1-16.)

- 1A Family Life with God
- 1B At Work with God
- 1C At Worship with God
- 1D Village Life with God

- God & Family
- God & Work
- God & Worship
- God & Community

Level Two



Treasuring the Bible —the Purpose and Power of God's Word (ages 7-9)
topical Bible stories about God's Word (Children also read Psalms 1-41, James, & 1-3 John.)

- 2A How We Got the Bible
- 2B Why We Got the Bible
- 2C The Bible Tells Me So
- 2D The Bible Guides My Life

- Bible Origin
- Bible Purpose
- Bible Authority
- Bible Guidance

Level Three



Serving the King —Jesus Christ's Life and Ministry (ages 8-10)
a chronological study of the four Gospels (Children read Matthew & Luke.)

- 3A Follow the King
- 3B Amazing Words
- 3C Mighty Miracles
- 3D Triumphant Over All

- Life of Christ, I
- Life of Christ, II
- Life of Christ, III
- Life of Christ, IV

Level Four



Transforming the World —the Church's Mission and Message (ages 9-11)
the unfolding drama of first-century Christianity (Children read Acts & Daniel 1-12.)

- 4A Eyewitnesses
- 4B Powerful Messengers
- 4C Valiant Voyagers
- 4D World Ambassadors

- Early Church, I
- Early Church, II
- Early Church, III
- World View

Level Five



Following the Faithful —Panorama of God's Kingdom (ages 10-12)
an overview of God's plan for the ages (Children read Psalms 42-78, John, & 1-2 Timothy.)

- 5A Old Testament Champions
- 5B New Testament Champions
- 5C Christian Champions
- 5D Tomorrow's Champions

- Tour the O.T.
- Tour the N.T.
- Church History
- Christian Service

Level Six



Walking with God —the Christian's Highest Privilege (ages 11-14)
practical disciplines for victorious living (Nehemiah, Jonah, Ephesians, & Philippians.)

- 6A Bringing the Bible to Life
- 6B God—Up Close and Personal
- 6C Standing Above the Crowd
- 6D After God's Own Heart

- Bible Study Methods
- Personal Devotions
- Peer Pressure
- Christian Living

DiscipleSkill

How to Show Respect
How to Be Faithful Workers
How to Worship God
How to Memorize God's Word

How to Use My Bible
How to Navigate the New Testament
How to Love God
How to Pray

How to Be Jesus' Disciple
How to Build Character
How to Grow Spiritual Fruit
How to Know the Truth

How to Walk in the Spirit
How to Explain My Faith
How to Make Good Friends
How to Be Global Christians

How to Navigate the Old Testament
How to Discover Gifts and Talents
How to Follow God's Plan
How to Earn Eternal Rewards

How to Study My Bible
How to Meet with God
How to Make Good Choices
How to Walk Victoriously

Missions WorldWatch

The Nations: Experience God's Passion

God's Great Family (William Carey)
God's Great Job (Gladys Aylward)
God's Great Worth (Nate Saint family)
God's Great Passion (David Livingstone)

The Message: Explore God's Book

The Universal Message (Cameron Townsend)
The "Heart" Message (12 missionary vignettes)
The O.T. Message (Adoniram & Ann Judson)
The N.T. Message (Mary Slessor)

The Mission: Follow God's Son

One Mandate (Hudson Taylor)
Many Messengers (Jackie Pullinger)
Many Methods (John Stewart)
Global Mission (Mark Zook)

The Team: Join God's Ambassadors

The First Team (Amy Carmichael)
The Dream Team (12 martyr vignettes)
The Local Team (George Mueller)
The Global Team (Loren Cunningham)

The Plan: Embrace God's Strategy

The Target (Don & Carol Richardson)
The Victory (Nick & Lynne Swanepoel)
The Pioneers (12 Church history vignettes)
The Visionaries (Floyd McClung)

The Call: Affirm God's Invitation

World-class Challenge (Bruce Olson)
World-class Preparation (Jim & Elisabeth Elliot)
World-class Opportunities (12 contemporary vignettes)
World-class Living (Jonathan Goforth)

Anatomy of a DiscipleLand Lesson

For the Teacher

This section is all for you, the teacher, to begin preparing for the lesson. It will bring your focus to the lesson's main points and arm you with information and inspiration as you prepare. It includes a summary of the lesson, additional background information, and a devotional to inspire you before bringing the lesson to your students.

Disciple Targets A list of the key Bible truths and response goals for your children. By the end of each lesson, students should know, feel, and be able to do each listed item.

Make Disciples

This section includes portions of the lesson to include wherever they work best for your teaching style and classroom situation. An opening prayer and Scripture memory verse (KeyVerse) with an accompanying memorization activity are always included.

World Watch Provide your children with a solid foundation for understanding and participating in world missions. Pages 90-91 of this Teacher Guide explain WorldWatch in detail.

Discipleship Tip Bite-sized ideas to make your teaching more successful and effective.

Supplies A complete list of supplies for all suggested activities.

Teaching Priorities

Activity

Available Instruction Time	Make Disciples	*Spark Interest	*Explore Scripture	*Inspire Action
30 minutes	0	5	15	10
60 minutes	10	15	20	15
90 minutes	15	20	30	25
120 minutes	20	25	45	30

* Most important; to be done each lesson time.

DiscipleLand lessons provide more material than you can cover during a typical class period. Use this chart to help you decide what to include.



Big Idea God leads His people to places where they can serve Him best.

Bible Passage Abraham Travels—Genesis 12-13
Knowing God He Is Three-in-One

Lesson Summary God's people lived in communities that came together to worship Him and to help each other. Abraham (Abram) left his father's household and followed God, trusting the Lord to provide for his family and to bring him to the land God would show him. In this lesson, children discover how God initiated His covenant with His people through Abraham. Abraham was quick to obey and always trusted God, receiving blessings for his faithfulness. Abraham's example will encourage the kids to obey and trust God. They'll also learn about God's three-in-one nature—that He is Father, Son, and Spirit.

Bible Background Abraham grew up in Ur, an important Chaldean city. Ur was very prosperous for its time, with large homes, schools, and temples. Few people in Abraham's time followed the one true God. After the Lord called Abraham, the journey to Canaan had numerous incidents, confusing situations, and potential disasters. At moments, Abraham and his family relied on their animals to provide food and transportation in the parched, barren desert. They moved to better feeding grounds when the herd devoured available food. God used this nomadic period to refine His followers' faith and to construct the foundation of the people called by His name.

DISCIPLINE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

<p>KNOWLEDGE (truths)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> K God is three persons in one—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19) N is in Bible times, God's people lived in tent villages as they traveled. (Genesis 13:12,16) W God instructed Abraham to obey and trust Him. (Genesis 13:4) 	<p>CHARACTER (emotions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> F Eager to obey God even when they can't see the reason. E Intrigued by nomadic living. E Secure in placing their trust in the one true God for protection and provision. L 	<p>CONDUCT (actions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D Re-act traveling and living in tents. O Recite the names of the three Persons of the Trinity. D DiscipleTalk—Your Amazing Mind! Begin to understand the function of their brains.
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Before You Start Check out the activities and downloads on pages 94-96 of this Teacher Guide!

Teacher Devotional
Saying "Yes" to God can be either exciting or anxiety-producing. It can be the adventure of your life or a series of difficult experiences you wouldn't choose. Like Abraham and Sarah, you can count on God's guiding presence and His cascade of blessings. God has called you to the important job of teaching children His Word. Your "Yes" to God will bring about what He intends, and you will be blessed in the process. Say "Yes" every day to God's opportunities. You won't be disappointed with the result.

Father in Heaven, saying "Yes" to You in my heart's desire. Give me courage and a sense of purpose in being just the witness, whatever that may be today. As You show me how faithful You are and pour Your presence in every situation, I become a stronger example to my children. Prepare these kids to receive Your Word. Encourage them in their weak moments and remind them that You are with them constantly. In Christ's name, amen.

Make Disciples
Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer
Thank God for each of your kids, by name if possible. Ask God to show your children how they can trust and obey Him. Praise God for being Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

WorldWatch
See page 90 for more information on WorldWatch.

Missionary Biography 1 of 12—David Livingston—Determined to Learn *Missionary notes on a profound impact on Africa. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads (enter the keyword "town").*

The year 1823 and ten-year-old David quickly walked down the street, the cold wind nipping at his ears and snow crunching under his feet. Young David was school-aged, but he wasn't headed to school. Instead, it was almost 6 o'clock in the morning and he was going to work at a factory. David joined some other children at the factory that made thread and yarn used for sewing. He was happy to be in the warm building, away from the cold winds. Every day he worked until eight o'clock in the evening, and then it was time for school! The other children were not exhausted after work to go to the school. Maybe you would be happy to see an attend school, but David knew the only way to a better life was for him to learn to read and write. So every night from 8:00, while other children slept, David listened to the teacher and studied hard. He wanted to learn so that one day he would be able to be a missionary.

Missions Education—God's Great Passion
To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads (enter the keyword "town").

KeyVerse
Topic: Tent Living
Reference: Genesis 15:6

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag (see page 95 for making a Shepherd's Bag) and let children try to guess what is inside (a map). Have a child remove the map from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Gather the kids in a circle. To help the children learn the verse, tell them they'll send it "traveling" around the circle. Go around and build the verse, one word at a time. Have each child repeat the previous words and then add a word before passing to the next person. Keep bringing on additional words one by one until the verse is complete.

God Is Wonderful!
Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads (enter the keyword "town"). See page 94 in this Teacher Guide for more information. For this first lesson, teach children the following:

Teacher: *What is God like?*
Children: *God is wonderful!*
God is Three-in-One—He's Spirit, Father, and Son.
Duck up one finger (Spirit), two (Father), and three (Son!)

BOHES RESOURCES
Download the resources for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads (enter the keyword "town").

SUPPLIES

General Supplies
Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 1-8)
Pencil, markers, crayons
Paper, construction paper, scissor, glue

Make Disciples
Shepherd's bag map

Spark Interest
-12"X12" THE NEIGHBORHOOD none
-3"RUBER IN ONE: chalk or tapo, paper plates

Explore Scripture
Teaching Picture 102—Abraham and Lot

Inspire Action
-ABRAHAM'S TENT LIFE: Bible-stem dress-up (clothes, large blocks optional)
-IMAGE OF THE TRINITY: no additional supplies

12

Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Genesis 12:13
Open your Bible to Genesis 12:13. How many of you have ever stayed in a tent? What was it like? Would you like to live in a tent all the time? Some people do live in tents all the time. Sometimes groups of people, like one big family, travel from place to place and live in tents. They have livestock such as sheep, goats, and cattle. They move to where there is enough water and pasture for their animals to eat.

Abraham (also called Abram) lived in Bible times. One day, Abraham heard from God: "Use a deep voice for the text quoting God: 'Abraham, leave your father's country. Take your family and move to a new land I will show you. I'm going to make you into a great nation. Everyone will know your name. You will be a blessing.'"

God promised Abraham that He would bless people who helped Abraham, and not bless anyone who didn't help him. Wow! Do you think Abraham was surprised to hear this message from God?

Abraham obeyed. "Yes, God, I will go!" Then he told his wife, Sarah, and his nephew, Lot. To pack all their belongings for a long trip, everyone in their group began packing tents, clothing, and everything they owned. Abraham got his cattle and sheep herds ready to travel. Imagine what this group must have looked like as they started.

Show the Teaching Picture 101 of Abraham's family traveling. Canals and donkeys were loaded with the tents, cooking supplies, clothing, and blankets.

Abraham started traveling in the direction God told him to go. He didn't know where he would end up. But he trusted God to direct him and to care for him and his family. Finally, Abraham's family arrived at a place called Canaan. God spoke again. Deep voice: "I'll give this land to your children." Abraham built an altar where he prayed and worshipped God. Then God directed him to travel to some hills near a place called Bethel. Abraham obeyed. "Yes, God, I will go!" He moved his family to Bethel where they set up their tents for a while. Abraham built another altar at Bethel where he prayed and worshipped God.

Abraham's group was pretty big—there were many family members and servants, and lots of sheep and other livestock. It became too crowded for both Abraham's family and his nephew Lot's family to stay in the same tent village. With so many animals, they didn't have enough water in the same small area.

They needed to spread out. So Abraham gave Lot a choice. "You can take the land on the left side," Abraham said, "or the right." Lot looked at both sections of land. Show the Teaching Picture 102 of Abraham and Lot. One had lots of water and was green and beautiful. The other side looked dry and dusty. Which do you think Lot chose? The green, pretty one!

Then God gave Abraham another message. "Abraham, look all around you. I'm going to give you and your children all the land you can see. Your family will be really big, and they'll own all this land." What a great gift! Abraham equipped his tents near some oak trees and settled down. To thank and honor God for giving him this huge blessing, he built another altar there.

Following God's Lead Genesis 13:1

Abraham traveled from place to place, living in tents. Follow Abraham's steps as he traveled to the land of Canaan. Draw arrows at the oak of Moreh, in the hill country, and near the oak of Mamre.

Why did Abraham build altars?

The Heart of the Lesson

These three sections embrace the Bible truths and bring your students into the Bible itself. This is where they will develop the knowledge, character, and conduct that will transform them into disciples of Jesus. Give highest priority to these sections when planning the lesson.

Spark Interest Choose an activity that will involve students and grab their attention. Each activity will appeal to different learning styles and preferences. More activities are available online at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

Explore Scripture Teach the Bible lesson with these interactive segments. Give children the foundation of Bible knowledge that will help them grow in the coming years. Include the exercises from the Disciple Guides. Download Bible passage outlines at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

Inspire Action Choose an activity that will encourage your children to apply the Bible truth to their lives. Each activity will appeal to different learning styles and preferences. More activities are available online at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Around the Neighborhood (10-15 minutes)
This explanation activity introduces the theme of nomads.

Ask your children to close their eyes and imagine they are walking in their neighborhood. As they imagine, tell them you will ask questions to help them with what they "see." They shouldn't answer aloud as you ask the questions but can see their answers for your discussion later.

- Do you see any street signs? Where are they?
- Do your neighbors have any pets? Are they walking them on a leash, or are they inside looking out windows?
- What types of homes or other buildings are nearby?
- What colors are they painted?
- What do the people look like? How do they travel? What are their vehicles like? Etc.

Ask children to share what they "saw" around their houses. Let's think about people's times now. What do you think that *Jesus* would have been like? Did people *back* then travel by bus or motorcycle? Did they live in apartment buildings or have awnings in their yards? Did they have pets?

Continue with discussion. In our Bible lesson today, we'll meet someone who left the security of his "neighborhood" to follow God.

OR

Three-In-One (10 minutes)
This activity introduces the concept of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Supplies:** chalk or tape, paper plates

Before class, label three paper plates "Father," "Son," and "Holy Spirit." Make a large chalk or tape triangle on the floor or wall. Draw a circle at each point of the triangle. Have the children stand on the lines of the triangle, but not on the circles. Explain that one amazing mystery about God is that He is three persons, but still one God. This is where we get the word "Trinity." "Tri" means "three" just like there are three sides to a "tri" angle. Give the Father stick to a child and have him or her place it on one of the three circles. One of the three persons of the Trinity is God the Father. We pray to Him in the name of another person of the Trinity. His name is

Disciple Guide—page 1
Help children understand the concept of the Trinity. Complete this page at the beginning of class or after a Spark Interest activity.

Traveling and living in tents was a hard way of life. Abraham might have wondered why God had asked him to do such a difficult thing. But Abraham didn't question God. Abraham was quick to obey and trusted the Lord. God blessed Abraham for being obedient and for trusting Him. No matter where God calls us to go, He will be with us. We can trust Him to direct us and provide what we need. We can obey Him with glad hearts!

Disciple Guide—page 2
Read the directions. Help children trace the path through the maze that reminds them of Abraham's journey.

Disciple Guide—page 3
Help kids unscramble the words. Complete the HeartBeat, encouraging them to find ways to trust and obey God.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Abraham's Tent Life (10-15 minutes)
This dramatic activity gets the children into the mindset of Bible-times nomads. **Supplies:** Bible-times dress-up clothes, large blocks (optional)

Let the children act as Abraham's family as they follow God. Designate specific areas of the room, hall, outdoors, and other areas as pastures for their herds, water sources, deserts, etc. Let them see dress-up clothes and act out the Bible story. Use a large class, some can be people and others can be animals. "People" can pack goods on the backs of "donkeys" and herd "sheep" as they move about. If desired, you can direct them to build an altar at one location.

Image of the Trinity (10 minutes)
This craft activity illustrates the concept of the Trinity. **Supplies:** paper, crayons or markers, pencils

On their papers, have children draw a large sun near the top. One way to understand God as three-in-one is to remember that God the Father is like the sun. He's holy and pure, like strong, hot sunlight. We can't even look at the bright shining sun because it hurts our eyes. In the same way, God the Father is a holy God that no one has seen Him. Direct kids to draw sunbeams radiating from the sun. Jesus is like the sun's rays. In fact, Jesus called Himself the Light of the World. He came down from the Father so we could learn who God is. Then ask children to draw a plant under the sun's rays. The sun's energy makes plants grow. The Holy Spirit grows our spirits so we can understand God and follow Him better.

Disciple Guides 1-3

What two things did Abraham and Sarah do when God told them to leave home?

yeob **obey**

trust **trust**

God leads these people to places where they can see His love best. Practice sleeping and trusting God. Name one way you can obey the Lord.

Answers will vary

Disciple Guides

Your children will enjoy these carefully designed, full-color activity sheets. Every page is presented here in full color and with an answer key for your convenience. Page 94 of this Teacher Guide describes student Disciple Guides in more detail.

DiscipleZone

DiscipleZone builds a "bridge" from the classroom to the home. These pages are designed to take home and are not normally to be completed in the classroom. Pages 88-89 of this Teacher Guide explain DiscipleZone more completely.

Closing Prayer
Thank God for Abraham's example of obeying and trusting God. Ask the children to pray individually for the ability to obey and trust the way Abraham did. Give them a silent moment to do this. Finish the prayer in the name of God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Closing Words
God's people lived in tents while they traveled the lands in obedience to God. Next time we'll learn more about what it was like to travel in Bible times!

DiscipleSkill
How to Memorize God's Word
During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Your Amazing Mind—Guide kids to appreciate God's elegant design of their brains.

DiscipleZone.com
Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/IDI for:
ExploreMore Discover more about the Trinity.
SwordWork Read Mark 12:18-34.
WorldWatch Meet the Wildf people of Senegal.
Dee-Cy-Paul Live! Cy and Paul imagine nomadic life.
KeyVerse Memorize Genesis 15:6.
HymnNotes Learn "America, the Beautiful."

Disciple Guide—page 4
Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to great! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.

Your brain is one of God's most amazing creations. Like a computer, your brain takes in, sends out, and stores messages. But your brain is much more powerful than any computer! It controls every part of your body—it helps you think, feel, learn, and remember.

Draw a picture of a computer inside the brain.

Answers will vary

In a Tent



Discovering God's Greatness

What Will Your Children Learn This Year?

Quarter	Topic	Title	Bible Content
1A	God & Family	Family Life with God	Topical stories + Mark 1-3
1B	God & Work	At Work with God	Topical stories + Mark 4-7
1C	God & Worship	At Worship with God	Topical stories + Mark 8-11
1D	God & Community	Village Life with God	Topical stories + Mark 12-16

This year, your children will acknowledge God—as Lord of heaven and earth. They will learn who God is, what He is like, and what He does. God directed the culture, worship practices, and lifestyles of ancient families. Kids will experience God's view of family, work, worship, and community. Join a Bible-times family and discover what God's world was like 2,000 years ago!



By the end of this year, your young disciples will...

Develop Biblical Knowledge (truths)

- K** • Every activity in heaven and on earth reflects God's greatness (1A-D).
- N** • God designs families to bond together through daily activities (1A).
- O** • Family members honor God by working hard to support each other (1B).
- W** • God's people worship Him through local churches around the world (1C).
- People in church communities work, play, and worship God together (1D).

Display Christlike Character (emotions)

- F** • Amazed to see God's greatness manifest itself in everyday life (1A-D).
- E** • Eager to cooperate with every member of their family (1A).
- E** • Glad to help their families by doing daily chores (1B).
- L** • Pleased to honor God as they worship Him (1C).
- Thankful to worship and grow together with their local church (1D).

Demonstrate Faithful Conduct (actions)

- D** • Identify facets of God's personality, His names, and His attributes (1A-D).
- O** • Participate in activities that strengthen their family life at home (1A).
- Develop work-related skills they can use throughout their lives (1B).
- Participate in personal and group worship times (1C).
- Construct a scale-model village that shows how Bible-times people lived (1D).

Your disciples will also develop in these ways:

Grow

- **SwordWork:** Read (with assistance) the entire Gospel of Mark (1A-D).
- **HeartBeat:** Complete life-application activities for each lesson (1A-D).
- **KeyVerse:** Recite 40 Bible verses that help them love God (1A-D).
- **WorldWatch:** Experience God's passion for the whole world (1A-D).
- **HymnNotes:** Learn eight best-loved hymns of the church (1A-D).

DiscipleSkills

- **How to Show Respect:** Practice good manners and courtesy to others (1A).
- **How to Be Faithful Workers:** Develop skills and habits of diligent workers (1B).
- **How to Worship God:** Honor and exalt God whenever they worship Him (1C).
- **How to Memorize God's Word:** Fill their minds with truths about God (1D).



Big Idea God leads His people to places where they can serve Him best.

Bible Passage Abraham's Travels—Genesis 12-13

Knowing God He Is Three-In-One

Lesson Summary

God's people lived in communities that came together to worship Him and to help each other. Abraham (Abram) left his father's household and followed God, trusting the Lord to provide for his family and to bring him to the land God would show him. In this lesson, children discover how God initiated His covenant with His people through Abraham. Abraham was quick to obey and always trusted God, receiving blessings for his faithfulness. Abraham's example will encourage the kids to obey and trust God. They'll also learn about God's three-in-one nature—that He is Father, Son, and Spirit.

Bible Background

Abraham grew up in Ur, an important Chaldean city. Ur was very progressive for its time, with large homes, schools, and temples. Few people in Abraham's time followed the one true God. After the Lord called Abraham, the journey to Canaan had numerous incidents, confusing situations, and potential disasters. As nomads, Abraham and his family relied on their animals to provide food and transportation in the parched, barren desert. They moved to better feeding grounds when the herds devoured available food. God used this nomadic period to refine His followers' faith and to construct the foundation of the people called by His name.



Check out the activities and downloads on pages 94-96 of this Teacher Guide!

Teacher Devotional

Saying "Yes" to God can be either exciting or anxiety-producing. It can be the adventure of your life or a series of difficult experiences you wouldn't choose. Like Abraham and Sarah, you can count on God's unfailing presence and His cascade of blessings. God has called you to the important job of teaching children His Word. Your "Yes" to God will bring about what He intends, and you will be blessed in the process. Say "Yes" every day to God's opportunities. You won't be disappointed with the result.

Father in heaven, saying "Yes" to You is my heart's desire. Give me courage and a sense of eagerness to jump into the unknown, whatever that may be today. As You show me how faithful You are and prove Your presence in every situation, I become a stronger example to my children. Prepare these kids to receive Your Word. Encourage them in their weak moments and remind them that You are with them constantly. In Christ's name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God is three persons in one—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)
- N** • In Bible times, God's people lived in tent villages as they traveled. (Genesis 13:5,12,18)
- O** • God blessed Abraham for obeying and trusting Him. (Genesis 13:14)

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Eager to obey God even when they can't see the reason.
- E** • Intrigued by nomadic living.
- E** • Secure in placing their trust in the one true God for protection and provision.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Re-enact traveling and living in tents.
- O** • Recite the names of the three Persons of the Trinity.
- DiscipleSkill—Your Amazing Mind: Begin to understand the function of their brains.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Thank God for each of your kids, by name if possible. Ask God to show your children how they can trust and obey Him. Praise God for being Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

WorldWatch

See page 90 for more information on WorldWatch.

Missionary Biography 1 of 12—David Livingstone—Determined to Learn *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

The year was 1823 and ten-year-old David quickly walked down the street, the cold wind nipping at his ears and snow crunching under his feet. Young David was school-aged, but he wasn't headed to school. Instead, it was almost 6 o'clock in the morning and he was going to work at a factory. David joined some other children at the factory that made thread and yarn used for sewing. He was happy to be in the warm building, away from the cold weather. Every day he worked until eight o'clock in the evening, and then it was time for school! The other children were too exhausted after work to go to the school. Maybe you would be happy to not attend school, but David knew the only way to a better life was for him to learn to read and write. So every night from 8-10, while other children slept, David listened to the teacher and studied hard. He wanted to learn so that one day he would be able to be a missionary.

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Look for opportunities to help children improve their social skills. Integrate activities that encourage kids to visit with each other while working together. Suggested activities—partner or team up to share a personal experience related to the Bible story, practice and recite the memory verse, retell the Bible story, or work on a craft project.

KeyVerse

Topic: Tent Living

Reference: *Genesis 15:6*

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag (see page 95 for making a Shepherd's Bag) and let children try to guess what is inside (a map). Have a child remove the map from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Gather the kids in a circle. To help the children learn the verse, tell them they'll send it "traveling" around the circle. Go around and build the verse, one word at a time. Have each child repeat the previous words and then add a word before passing to the next person. Keep stringing on additional words one by one until the verse is complete.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. See page 94 in this Teacher Guide for more information. For this first lesson, teach children the following:

Teacher: **What is God like?**

Children: **God is wonderful!**

God is Three-in-One—He's Spirit, Father, and Son.

(hold up one finger (Spirit), two (Father), and three (Son))

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

- Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 1-4)
- Pencils, markers, crayons
- Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

- Shepherd's Bag, map

Spark Interest

- AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD: none
- THREE-IN-ONE: chalk or tape, paper plates

Explore Scripture

- Teaching Picture 1D.1—Abraham traveling
- Teaching Picture 1D.2—Abraham and Lot

Inspire Action

- ABRAHAM'S TENT LIFE: Bible-times dress-up clothes, large blocks (optional)
- IMAGE OF THE TRINITY: no additional supplies

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Around the Neighborhood (10-15 minutes)

This exploration activity introduces the theme of nomads.

Ask your children to close their eyes and imagine they are walking in their neighborhood. As they imagine, tell them you will ask questions to help them with what they “see.” They shouldn’t answer aloud as you ask the questions but can save their answers for your discussion later.

- **Do you see any street signs? Where are they?**
- **Do your neighbors have any pets? Are they walking them on a leash, or are they inside looking out windows?**
- **What types of homes or other buildings are nearby? What colors are they painted?**
- **What do the people look like? How do they travel? What are their vehicles like?** Etc.

Ask children to share what they “saw” around their homes. **Let’s think about Bible times now. What do you think their lives would have been like? Did people back then travel by bus or motorcycle? Did they live in apartment buildings or have swing sets in their yards? Did they have pets?**

Continue with discussion. **In our Bible lesson today, we’ll meet someone who left the security of his “neighborhood” to follow God.**

OR

Three-In-One (10 minutes)

This activity introduces the concept of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Supplies: chalk or tape, paper plates

Before class, label three paper plates “Father,” “Son,” and “Holy Spirit.” Make a large chalk or tape triangle on the floor or wall. Draw a circle at each point of the triangle. Have the children stand on the lines of the triangle, but not on the circles. Explain that one amazing mystery about God is that He is three persons, but still one God. **This is where we get the word “Trinity.” “Tri” means “three” just like there are three sides to a “tri”angle.** Give the Father circle to a child and have him or her place it on one of the three circles. **One of the three persons of the Trinity is God the Father. We pray to Him in the name of another person of the Trinity. His name is**

Jesus. Give the Son circle to a different child to place on a circle outline. **One of the three persons of the Trinity is God the Son. He’s the One who came to die for us so we could know Him as our friend. When Jesus returned to heaven, He didn’t leave us alone. He sent the third person of the Trinity—God, the Holy Spirit. He came to live with people who know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.** Hand another child the Holy Spirit circle to place the final circle on the triangle. **The Holy Spirit comforts us, teaches us and strengthens us.** Say this poem line by line, with the children repeating after each line:

I praise you God, the Father,
I praise you Jesus, the Son,
I praise you Holy Spirit,
You are Three-in-One.

Disciple Guide—page 1

Help children understand the concept of the Trinity. Complete this page at the beginning of class or after a *Spark Interest* activity.

Tent Living

1

God is a TRINITY—three Persons united in One: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Draw lines to match each Person with the correct description.

Jesus, Who died for us

the Lord Who sent the Son

the Comforter and Helper Who lives in us

God is all three!

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...

God

Father

Son

Spirit

is not

is not

is not

is

is

is

Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Genesis 12-13

Open your Bible to Genesis 12-13. How many of you have ever stayed in a tent? What was it like? Would you like to live in a tent all the time? Some people do live in tents all the time. Sometimes groups of people, like one big family, travel from place to place and live in tents. They have livestock such as sheep, goats, and cattle. They move to where there is enough water and pasture for their animals to eat.

Abraham (also called Abram) lived in Bible times. One day, Abraham heard from God! Use a deep voice for the texts quoting God. “Abraham, leave your father’s country. Take your family and move to a new land I will show you. I’m going to make you into a great nation. Everyone will know your name. You will be a blessing.”

God promised Abraham that He would bless people who helped Abraham, and not bless anyone who didn’t help him. Wow! Do you think Abraham was surprised to hear this message from God?

Abraham obeyed. “Yes, God, I will go!” Then he told his wife, Sarah, and his nephew, Lot, to pack all their belongings for a long trip. Everyone in their group began packing tents, clothing, and everything they owned. Abraham got his cattle and sheep herds ready to travel. Imagine what this group must have looked like as they started.



Show the Teaching Picture 1D.1 of Abraham’s family traveling. Camels and donkeys were loaded with the tents, cooking supplies, clothing, and blankets.

Abraham started traveling in the direction God told him to go. He didn’t know where he would end up. But he trusted God to direct him and to care for him and his family. Finally, Abraham’s family arrived at a place called Canaan, God spoke again, Deep voice: “I’ll give this land to your children.” Abraham built an altar where he prayed and worshiped God. Then God directed him to travel to some hills near a place called Bethel. Abraham obeyed. “Yes, God, I will go!” He moved his family to Bethel where they set up their tents for a while. Abraham built another altar at Bethel where he prayed and worshiped God.

Abraham’s group was pretty big—there were many family members and servants, and lots of sheep and other livestock. It became too crowded for both Abraham’s family and his nephew Lot’s family to stay in the same tent village. With so many animals, they didn’t have enough water in the same small area.

They needed to spread out! So Abraham gave Lot a choice. “You can take the land on the left side,” Abraham said, “or the right.” Lot looked at both sections of land.



Show the Teaching Picture 1D.2 of Abraham and Lot. One had lots of water and was green and beautiful. The other side looked dry and dusty. Which do you think Lot chose? The green, pretty one!

Then God gave Abraham another message. “Abraham, look all around you. I’m going to give you and your children all the land you can see. Your family will be really big, and they’ll own all this land.” What a great gift! Abraham unpacked his tents near some oak trees and settled down. To thank and honor God for giving him this huge blessing, he built another altar there.

Following God’s Lead Genesis 12-13

2
Nomads travel from place to place, living in tents. Follow Abraham’s steps as he traveled to obey God. Draw altars at the oak of Moreh, in the hill country, and near the oaks of Mamre.



Why did Abraham build altars?

Traveling and living in tents was a hard way of life. Abraham might have wondered why God had asked him to do such a difficult thing. But Abraham didn't question God. Abraham was quick to obey and trusted the LORD. God blessed Abraham for being obedient and for trusting Him. No matter where God calls us to go, He will be with us. We can trust Him to direct us and provide what we need. We can obey Him with glad hearts!

Disciple Guide—page 2

Read the directions. Help children trace the path through the maze that reminds them of Abraham's journey.

Disciple Guide—page 3

Help kids unscramble the words. Complete the HeartBeat, encouraging them to find ways to trust and obey God.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Abraham's Tent Life (10-15 minutes)

This dramatic activity gets the children into the mindset of Bible-times nomads. **Supplies:** Bible-times dress-up clothes, large blocks (optional)

Let the children act as Abraham's family as they follow God. Designate certain areas of the room, hall, outdoors, and other areas as pastures for their herds, water sources, deserts, etc. Let them use dress-up clothes and act out the Bible story. For a large class, some can be people and others can be animals. "People" can pack goods on the backs of "donkeys" and herd "sheep" as they move about. If desired, you can direct them to build an altar at one location.

OR

Image of the Trinity (10 minutes)

This craft activity illustrates the concept of the Trinity.

Supplies: paper, crayons or markers, pencils

On their papers, have children draw a large sun near the top. **One way to understand God as three-in-one is to remember that God the Father is like the sun. He's holy and pure, like strong, hot sunlight. We can't even look at the bright shining sun because it hurts our eyes. In the same way, God the Father is so holy that no one has seen Him.** Direct kids to draw sunbeams radiating from the sun. **Jesus is like the sun's rays. In fact, Jesus called Himself the Light of the World. He came down from the Father so we could learn who God is.** Then ask children to draw a plant under the sun's rays. **The sun's energy makes plants grow. The Holy Spirit grows our spirits so we can understand God and follow Him better.**

3

God Guides Us

What two things did Abraham and Sarah do when God told them to leave home?



yoeb **obey** _____

rtuts **trust** _____

God helps us do these things, too!



God leads His people to places where they can serve Him best. Practice obeying and trusting God. Name one way you can **obey** the Lord.



Name one way you can **trust** God.

answers will vary

Closing Prayer

Thank God for Abraham's example of obeying and trusting God. Ask the children to pray individually for the ability to obey and trust the way Abraham did. Give them a silent moment to do this. Finish the prayer in the name of God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Closing Words

God's people lived in tents while they traveled the lands in obedience to God. Next time we'll learn more about what it was like to travel in Bible times!



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Your Amazing Mind—Guide kids to appreciate God's elegant design of their brains.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D1 for:

XploreMore *Discover more about the Trinity.*

SwordWork *Read Mark 12:18-34.*

WorldWatch *Meet the Wolof people of Senegal.*

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! *Cy and Paul imagine nomadic life.*

KeyVerse *Memorize Genesis 15:6.*

HymnNotes *Learn "America, the Beautiful."*

Disciple Guide—page 4

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—

DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



Travel



◦ **Big Idea** God shows His people the way as they travel.

Bible Passage *Jacob's Return*—Genesis 32-33

Knowing God *Jesus Is the Way*

Lesson Summary

Jacob's relationship with his older brother, Esau, was stormy from the day the twins were born. Jacob left the family after deceiving Isaac into blessing him instead of Esau. Esau and Jacob's parting was hostile. Over time, God worked in both men and eventually told Jacob to return home. In this lesson, we see Jacob's struggle with his sin and fear of consequences—how he gave his fears to God and how the Lord comforted him. The friendly reunion—Jacob asked for forgiveness and Esau gave it—is a model for children in their relationships with family and friends. Kids will also learn about the slow, difficult means of Bible-times travel. They'll see the importance of forgiving and the relief of being forgiven, understanding that Jesus forgives our sins, offering us the only Way to heaven.

Bible Background

As Jacob fled from Esau, he stopped at Bethel, where God confirmed in a vision that the promises made years before to Abraham would be passed on through Jacob. God also promised Jacob that he would one day return to Bethel. Some twenty years later, the Lord instructed Jacob to return to Bethel, the land of his fathers. After Jacob and Esau were reunited, they soon parted company. Jacob arrived in

Shechem and built an altar to the Lord—in the same place that Abraham had built his first altar (Genesis 12:8). Jacob and Esau again met together to bury their father, Isaac. In Genesis 36, Esau took his wives from Canaan and became the father of the Edomites. The brothers parted, and God developed His chosen people through Jacob, whose new name was Israel.

Teacher Devotional

Imagine Jacob's long journey—its sole purpose to meet up with the brother he had cheated from a family inheritance. Asking forgiveness of a relative or friend can be nerve-racking and humbling, but it can result in joy and relief, healing wounds that have ached and stung. Invite God to bring to mind any unresolved conflicts in your own life. Go in His grace to fix the problem, so you can part in peace as Jacob and Esau did. Doing so will enrich your life and strengthen your teaching.

Father, thank You for forgiving me so many times. Point me in the direction of anyone I need to apologize to, and give me grace to forgive those who have hurt me. Help me use my experiences to teach the children how very important it is to forgive and to be forgiven. In Christ's name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • Jesus is the Way—the only way to God. (John 14:6)
- N** • God told Jacob to move back to the land where he was born. (Genesis 31:3)
- O** • Jacob feared returning to his brother, Esau. (Genesis 32:11)
- W** • God wants them to forgive and ask forgiveness from others. (Genesis 33:10-11)

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Glad to follow Jesus wherever He leads.
- E** • Grateful for the easier means of travel they can enjoy.
- E** • Empowered to forgive others and ask forgiveness when needed.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Show kindness and forgiveness to family and friends.
- O** • Compare modern and ancient methods of travel.
- Pray before they travel.
- DiscipleSkill—Sending Messages: Learn the basics of how their brains work.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Thank God for providing safe travel for each child. Praise Jesus for being the Way to heaven for us all. Ask the Holy Spirit to open the children's hearts and ears to hear His message to them today.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 2 of 12—David Livingstone—God and Science *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

Without anyone seeing it, David pulled out the little plant that he had stuffed in his pocket earlier that day. He was amazed by nature and was eager to compare the leaves with the picture in his science book. David loved science, but his father thought reading science books was a waste of time. Mr. Livingstone thought reading the Bible and religious books was the only preparation that David needed to be a missionary. Somehow, David felt there must be a way to combine his love for science with his dream to be a missionary.

One day David heard of a need for missionary doctors to go to China. At last he knew how to combine his love of science with being a missionary. So David headed to college to become a doctor. He studied and did very well at school. In fact, when he graduated from college, he was offered a teaching job that paid ten times more than his factory work had paid. If he took the job, he would have a very comfortable life, but he wouldn't be a missionary like he had always dreamed. What would David do?

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Children this age love to receive mail. Drop them a note on their birthdays, when they are sick, or just to remind them that you care. Knowing that you think of them outside the classroom will go a long way toward building a trusting and loving relationship.

KeyVerse

Topic: Travel

Reference: *Psalm 86:11*

Memorization Activity: Before class, cut shoe shapes from construction paper, printing one or two words of the verse per shape. Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag and let children try to guess what is inside (a sandal or shoe). Have a child remove the sandal from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Pass out the shoe shapes with the Bible verse words. As you read the verse, have the children line up, holding their parts of the verse in the correct order. Have each child say his or her part, going down the line. Then have them pass their shoes to the right (or left) and repeat the verse again.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is the only Way—Christ holds the key to heaven.
(open door, peek inside)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

- Puppet script and lesson "bookends"
- More activity ideas
- Activity templates and downloads
- *Explore Scripture* teacher notecards

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 5-8)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

Shepherd's Bag, sandal or shoe, construction paper

Spark Interest

- TRAVEL IMAGININGS: none
- ONE WAY: pictures of road signs

Explore Scripture

Teaching Picture 1D.3—Jacob traveling
Teaching Picture 1D.4—Jacob and Esau

Inspire Action

- TALES FROM THE FIELD: missionary guest
- THE WAY: cardstock
- TRAVEL CHARADES: none

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Travel Imaginings (10-15 minutes)

This drama activity introduces the theme of travel.

Have children pretend to do each activity as you describe their travel: **We're in Bible times, and we're going to move to another town. You need to:**

Roll up your tent and pack it on your camel. Pack your food and other things, too. It's time to go. We walk and walk, leading our packed camels. It's getting hot and you're so thirsty. Get your water jug and take a drink. Wipe the sweat from your forehead. Keep walking. The flies are really bad—swat the flies. Your camel doesn't want to go any farther and stops! But it isn't time to stop yet—pull on the reins of your camel! The camel doesn't budge. Let's give in and set up camp here under the tree. Take your tent down from the camel and set up camp. It was a good day of travel—God kept you safe and you probably went twenty miles! Get plenty of sleep—we'll start out again tomorrow!

Now let's pretend to travel like we do today. We'll visit relatives who live 600 miles away.

Pack your suitcase. Hurry to the car and put your suitcase in the trunk. Put on your sunglasses and drive to the airport. We've arrived at the airport. Get your suitcase from the trunk and check it in with the attendant. Here's your plane ticket. Walk down the hall to your boarding gate. Get in line and give the assistant your ticket. Find your seat and sit down. Read a book, watch a movie, or work on your computer as the plane flies. Soon the plane lands, stops, and opens the door so you can leave the plane. You step out and there waiting for you are your relatives! Wow, you had a great trip, God kept you safe, and you flew 600 miles in only three hours!

Bible-times travel and our travel today are very different, but one thing will never change. God watches over us all the time.

OR

One Way (10 minutes)

This object lesson emphasizes that Jesus is the only way to God. **Supplies:** pictures of road signs, a “one-way” sign.

Show kids pictures of various road signs and ask them if they know what the signs mean. You can download signs to print out at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. Show the last sign, the “one-way” sign. **Who knows what this sign means? What happens if you don't follow this sign? Could people get hurt?**



Jesus said that He is the Way—the only way—to God and to heaven. No other person, no other “god,” nothing we can do will help us reach God the Father. Hold up the “one-way” sign. **The Bible is like a “one-way” sign pointing to Jesus. Not following that sign—not following God's Word—can only get us into trouble. Following Jesus is the only way to live God's way. It is the only way to live in heaven someday with Him!**

Disciple Guide—page 5

Emphasize that Jesus is the only way to God and to life in heaven with Him. Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a Spark Interest activity.


5

Travel







Jesus is the only Way people can reach heaven.
He leads us down the right path.

Follow Jesus' footsteps to find the path to heaven.



I'm following only Jesus!



ID • Village Life With God • Lesson 2

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Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

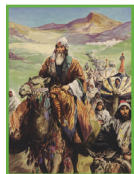
Genesis 32-33

Open your Bible to Genesis 32-33. Before class, tape blue paper in a meandering “stream” in one part of the room. Set boxes as “boulders” in a few spots along the “road” where you’ll walk with the children.

The last time you went on a trip or vacation, how did you travel there? Encourage responses. In Bible times, people traveled by foot, boat, donkey, camel, horse and cart, chariot, and some were even carried by servants! But often they walked, leading their animals that carried all their belongings, tents, and food.

Jacob had left home a long time ago. Jacob had cheated his twin brother, Esau, and had stolen a very important gift—their father’s blessing. When Esau found out, he was so mad at Jacob that he wanted to kill his brother. So Jacob had run away.

Many years later, God spoke to Jacob in a dream: “Pack up your family and your belongings and go back to the land of your birth.” Jacob obeyed. He packed all his belongings, put his family on camels, and left his home. He took his herds of animals and all his property. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.3 of Jacob traveling.



It was a long trip, and Jacob had many days to think and pray. Jacob’s brother, Esau, would be there—and he still might be very mad at Jacob. “What will he do when he sees me? Will Esau forgive me or will he still want to kill me?” God knew Jacob was afraid. He sent His angels to meet Jacob. When Jacob saw the angels, he knew that God was with him.

Let’s pretend to be Jacob and his family and flocks as they traveled. Have children choose roles—Jacob’s children or the various animals. Play Jacob, using a walking stick to travel slowly. Stop for the night and set up tents, cook food over a fire, and sleep on the ground.

When Jacob was almost home, he prayed for God’s protection. Jacob planned to give Esau a present. He chose 220 goats, 220 sheep, 30 camels, 40 cows, 10 bulls, and 30 donkeys. That’s

a pretty big present! He sent them ahead in three different groups to meet Esau. One by one, three servants met Esau and gave him gifts, announcing that his brother, Jacob, was on his way and wanted to be friends.

Travel some more, this time over the “stream.” The next day, Jacob saw his brother, Esau, coming with 400 men! Jacob was afraid of what Esau might do, but he trusted God to help him do what was right. Jacob walked in front of everyone. He bowed to the ground seven times to show he was sorry for stealing from Esau. When Jacob looked up the last time,



Esau was running right toward him! Show the Teaching Picture 1D.4 of Jacob and Esau. Esau threw his arms around Jacob! He hugged him and kissed him. Both brothers cried with the happiness at being together after so many years. Jacob introduced his family to Esau.

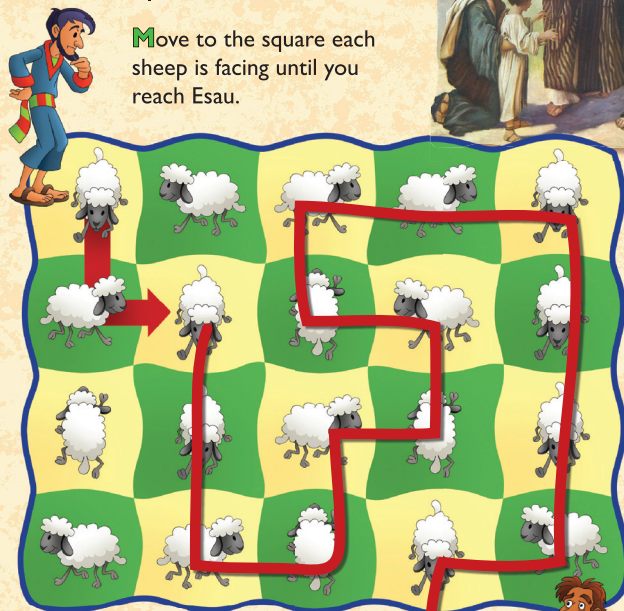
Esau didn’t want to take all the gifts from Jacob. “Please forgive me and accept my gifts,” Jacob said. “God has been so good and gracious to me. I have more than I want.” So Esau forgave Jacob and accepted the gifts.

6

Jacob and Esau Genesis 32-33

Jacob traveled a long way to visit Esau. He didn’t know whether his brother would be angry or happy to see him. Help Jacob follow the sheep that lead to Esau.

Move to the square each sheep is facing until you reach Esau.



Wherever I travel, God is with me!



After a short visit, Esau returned to his home, and Jacob traveled on to Canaan where he worshiped God, thanking Him for safe travel and for renewing his relationship with Esau.

Jacob had lived in guilt and fear for many years because he didn't ask for forgiveness from his brother. The Bible story teaches us that we can be kind and forgiving to each other. When we hurt someone else, we can ask God to forgive us and to help us ask for forgiveness from the person we wronged. God will guide us and show us the way.

Disciple Guide—page 6

Discuss Jacob's reunion with Esau as you help kids complete the maze.

Disciple Guide—page 7

Talk about why families travel. Complete the HeartBeat, helping children choose someone they can tell about Jesus.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Tales from the Field (10 minutes)

This guest speaker excites kids about traveling the world.

Invite a missionary, someone who has been on a short-term missions trip, or a business person who has traveled internationally to share about his or her travels. Ask the guest to describe the ways he or she has traveled and the types of travel observed in other places. If a missionary is your speaker, ask him or her to share a time when someone the missionary met trusted Jesus as the Way to heaven.



The Way (10 minutes)

This craft focuses on the name of Jesus, the Way.

Supplies: narrow rectangular cardstock pieces, markers or crayons

Show children some examples of bumper stickers and explain that people put them on their car and truck bumpers. They're short messages that other people read as they travel.

Have children design their own bumper stickers. Write "Jesus is the Way" on the board for them to copy, then they can add their own design. As they work, talk about Jesus being the only way to heaven. Ask children how they'll display their bumper stickers.



Travel Charades (10 minutes)

This drama activity allows children to use their knowledge about modern and Bible-times travel.

Children will pantomime different types of transportation. Let them choose their mode of travel and whisper it to you before acting it out, or assign them what to act out. Explain that once a certain type of travel is chosen, it can't be repeated. Children can use both modern-day and Bible-times travel modes.

7

Pack Your Bags

Circle reasons your family has traveled.

to see interesting places

to move to a new place

to visit friends

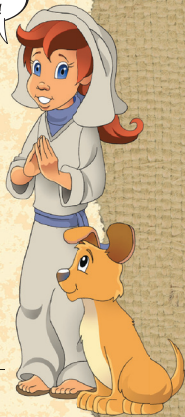
to tell others about Jesus

to visit relatives

to go to a wedding or funeral



God is always with me!



God shows His people the way as they travel. Who can you tell about Jesus being the Way? Write his or her name here.

Ask God to help that person learn more about Jesus.

answers will vary

Closing Prayer

Pray for the children to use the examples of Jacob and Esau to forgive others and to ask for forgiveness when appropriate. Thank God for allowing Jesus to become the Way to heaven when He forgives our sins.

Closing Words

What is your favorite season? What about your favorite kind of weather? Next time we'll talk about how Bible-times people lived during winter, spring, summer, and fall.



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Sending Messages—Give kids a basic outline of the nervous system.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D2 for:

XploreMore *Discover more about the Way.*

SwordWork *Read Mark 12:35-44.*

WorldWatch *Learn about Wolof customs.*

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! *Dee and her family become lost.*

KeyVerse *Memorize Psalm 86:11.*

HymnNotes *Meet Katherine Bates, author of "America, the Beautiful."*

DiscipleSkill How to Memorize God's Word
Sending Messages

Travel Verse
Psalm 86:11

World Watch
Where do the Wolof live?
Senegal

Class Code: **8**

Color in this nerve cell. There are millions of nerve cells in your body. They send messages from your brain to your body and back to your brain.

Go turn on a light switch. Turn it off again. Electricity from wires in your house travels from the light switch to the light to make it work. That's similar to how nerve cells send messages from your brain to your body.

Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D2

Disciple Guide—page 8

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—

DiscipleZone.com

—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



Big Idea God controls the seasons and the weather to accomplish His purposes.

Bible Passage *Elijah and the Draught*—Kings 17:1-7, 18:41-46

Knowing God He Is Unchanging

Lesson Summary

Weather influences our lives in both dramatic and subtle ways. Most children will have stories of how a storm or surprising weather change affected them or their families. Like the rest of us, kids wish they could control when it rains or snows, or when it is hot and sunny. This lesson clearly demonstrates that God is in charge of weather and seasons. Children will appreciate that He holds the reins in this domain and that they can trust God because He doesn't change.

Bible Background

In Bible times, seasons determined the growth and harvest of crops—and so created the life cycle of God's people. Hot sunny summer spanned from May until October. Morning dew and wind from the sea provided relief from the heat. Winter was cold and rainy, particularly from December through February. Spring rains in March and April gave the fields moisture before the summer drought. The Jews regulated their lives according to the weather patterns of Judea. They learned to trust God as He provided or withheld the rains or sunshine.

Teacher Devotional

The changing seasons and variable weather patterns show God's creative power. We stand in awe of the tremendous force of hurricanes, floods, tidal waves and tornadoes. We also acknowledge God's greatness as He regulates the seasons that result in bountiful harvests that sustain us. Let this knowledge—that God is the author of the weather and seasons—humble you and keep you thankful for the weather conditions you experience.

Lord, You are truly great! You send clouds, rain, and sunshine to accomplish Your purposes on earth. Help me give thanks each day with the weather that You bring. Help the kids realize that Your unchanging purpose is greater than any human plan or dream. May they learn to trust and thank you for everything! In Jesus' name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God doesn't change. (Malachi 3:6)
- N** • God controls the weather. (Matthew 5:45)
- O** • Elijah used the weather to show that God is in charge.
- W** (1 Kings 17:1)

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Secure knowing that God does not change.
- E** • Awed by God's control of weather and seasons.
- E** • Thankful for the seasons God created.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Praise God for His unchanging nature.
- O** • Joyfully accept the weather God sends.
- DiscipleSkill—Use Your Five Senses: Discover how their senses are connected to their brains.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Thank God for each of your kids by name. Praise Him for the weather and seasons He created. Thank Him for being unchanging, for always loving us. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead the children in living God's way every day.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 3 of 12—David Livingstone—A Missionary Trusts God *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

David had to choose between taking a good-paying teaching job or being a missionary doctor. He chose to follow his lifelong dream of becoming a missionary, so he moved to the big city of London to join the London Missionary Society and prepare for serving God in China. One of the requirements for a missionary was to preach a sermon. David worked very hard to prepare his sermon. On the Sunday he was to preach, he stood, greeted the congregation, and then forgot the entire sermon. How embarrassing for David! He ran from the church and knew he had failed. He wondered how God could let him experience such a disaster when all he wanted to do was to be a missionary.

Even though David failed at his first sermon, he learned an important lesson—to trust God and depend only on God's strength. Excitedly, David prepared for his second chance to give a sermon. He felt satisfied that God would use his willingness to serve Him. Yes, David succeeded as he preached every word of his second sermon, but a strange thing happened. The door to China immediately shut to all missionaries. David was disappointed, but he trusted that God had a plan. Where did God plan to send the brand-new missionary, David Livingstone?

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Kids this age are highly energetic and active. Remember to integrate plenty of movement into your class time. If you notice children becoming fidgety, take the initiative to insert spontaneous activity—move to a different part of the room for the next segment; get everyone stretching while mimicking your exaggerated movements; or switch the order of activities so kids can move sooner rather than later.

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

KeyVerse

Topic: Seasons and Weather

Reference: *Leviticus 26:4*

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag and let children try to guess what is inside (mini-umbrella). Have a child remove the umbrella from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Assign groups of kids different weather motions. Some can twirl like tornadoes, others can sway like trees in the wind, etc. Point to each group and have kids recite the Bible verse as they make their motions. Repeat until all kids have memorized the verse.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is Unchanging—He always stays the same.
(nod head up and down)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

- More activity ideas
- Activity templates and downloads
- *Explore Scripture* teacher notecards

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 9-12)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

Shepherd's Bag, mini-umbrella

Spark Interest

•WEATHER REPORT: TV props, video camera
•WHAT DOESN'T CHANGE?: water, plant, picture of a baby

Explore Scripture

Teaching Picture 1D.5—Elijah and ravens
Teaching Picture 1D.6—Servant and cloud

Inspire Action

•GOD'S NATURE: none
•DRAW THE WEATHER: no additional supplies

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Weather Report (10-15 minutes)

This presentation activity introduces the topic of weather and the seasons. **Supplies:** TV props, video camera (optional)

We're going to be weather reporters today. Ask who has seen weather reporters on TV. Explain that weather reporters use science to tell people what the weather is expected to be like in the next few days. Write these scenarios out for volunteers to read:

The weather is a balmy 90 degrees and should continue through the better part of this week. But next week expect cloud cover and some rain showers with the temperatures dropping into the mid-70's.

It has been a rainy day, but the rainbow and the blue afternoon sky indicate the rains are on their way out. Expect warmer weather and little chance of rain over the weekend. New leaves will soon appear on the trees; it's a good time to get out the lawn mower!

Once they have heard these examples, let kids pair up and create their own reports, assigning seasons to each pair. The rest of the class will guess what season it must be, based on the weather conditions presented. Customize this activity to your local seasonal weather.

Only God knows what the weather is really going to do. Have you ever heard someone say it was supposed to rain today—but it didn't? Or that there would be a foot of snow over the weekend, but no snow came? Weather reporters watch for certain things to determine what kind of weather to expect, but they never know for sure. Only God knows exactly what will happen.

OR

What Doesn't Change? (10 minutes)

This object lesson demonstrates God's unchanging nature. **Supplies:** a glass of water, a plant, a picture of a baby

Place the three items on the table and invite children to inspect them. Ask kids to think of the ways these things are alike. After listening to chil-

dren's ideas, explain that all of these items change over time. Let children tell how each would change. Ask them to name anything they can think of that doesn't change. (Explain how even things like mountains and rocks change over time.) After some thought, tell them there's only one thing that's never changed—God. **The Bible tells us God will never change in His love for us** (Jeremiah 31:3), **in His promises** (2 Peter 3:9), **and in the fact that He forgives our sins when we ask** (1 John 1:9).

Disciple Guide—page 9

Help kids unscramble the letters. Explain how God never changes. Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a *Spark Interest* activity.

9

Seasons and Weather

God never changes.
He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Place the letters in the correct order.

H C N A C A

God is
UNCHANGING

God is rock-solid!

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25

Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

1 Kings 17:1-7, 18:41-46

How many of you like rainy days? Encourage responses. Many people don't like the rain, but rain is important to make the plants grow. Why is it important for plants to grow? Encourage responses. Today we'll see what happened when God stopped sending rain.

Every spring in Israel, the people enjoyed wonderful rains during March and April. These rains filled the lakes and rivers. They brought moisture so the crops in the fields would grow. The people depended on these rains before the hot summer sun dried out the land.

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 17:1-7, 18:41-46. King Ahab and Queen Jezebel didn't want to obey God's Word. They worshiped false gods. They encouraged God's people to stop listening to the LORD, too. King Ahab especially hated Elijah, a prophet of the LORD.

God wanted to teach King Ahab and His people a lesson. So, He stopped sending rain. Soon the plants withered and the streams dried up. There was no food to eat. There was no water to drink. But the LORD sent Elijah to a special

brook where he could drink water. Every day, God sent ravens to bring Elijah food. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.5 of Elijah and the ravens. Every morning, these big black birds brought bread and meat for Elijah. Every evening, the ravens brought him more bread and meat to eat. God took care of Elijah.

Because God's people did not obey Him, no rain fell for three whole years! They were desperate! One day, King Ahab and the false prophets gathered on Mt. Carmel. Elijah met them and had a contest to prove that the LORD is greater than Baal, King Ahab's false god. The LORD sent fire from heaven! Baal did nothing. Who was greater, the LORD or Baal? Encourage responses.



Then Elijah told King Ahab, "Get ready for a heavy rainstorm." Elijah and his servant climbed to the top of Mount Carmel. Elijah got on his knees and prayed for God to send rain. He told his servant, "Go; look toward the great sea; tell me what you see." The servant returned and said to Elijah, "I saw nothing." Elijah prayed again. Then he sent his servant to look. Again the servant saw nothing. This happened six times. But on the seventh time, the servant said, "I saw a tiny cloud far in the distance." Show the Teaching Picture 1D.6 of the servant and the cloud. Elijah knew that the LORD would soon answer his prayer.







The sky grew black. The wind blew hard. Then the rain started to fall. God sent a great rainstorm. Elijah knew that God sent the storm. King Ahab knew that God was in charge of the weather. All the people knew that the LORD is greater than all gods. God controls the seasons and weather to accomplish His purposes.








God Brings Rain | 1 Kings 17:1-7, 18:41-46












10

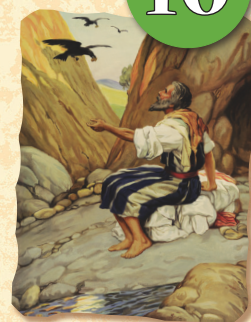
Draw the correct picture in the spaces below to complete the story.

King  and Queen  didn't obey . They hated , God's prophet.

 punished King  and stopped sending .

There was no  to eat or  to drink. But  led  to  and sent  to bring .

After  years,  asked  for .  sent his servant  times to look toward the . The seventh time, Elijah's servant saw a tiny .  knew  was bringing .



God leads with His Word

Inspire Action

Disciple Guide—page 10

Recite the rebus together. Encourage children to draw a proper picture to complete the story.

Disciple Guide—page 11

Help kids complete the poem. Complete the HeartBeat, discussing how they can thank God for the weather He sends.

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

God's Nature (10 minutes)

This brainstorming activity highlights what we can learn about God from the weather.

Write or draw the following weather elements on the board: sunshine, winds, rain, thunder, and lightning. Ask the kids to call out how each element reminds them of God. Write their answers on the board. Ideas to jump-start the discussion: warm sunshine—light, purity, nourishment; gentle rains—gentleness, mercy, nourishment; blowing winds—invisible, moving, strength; thunder and lightning—majesty, strength, wrath. Remind the children that even though the weather and seasons constantly change, God does not change—He is the same yesterday, today, and always!

11

God Gives Us Weather

God uses the weather to help plants grow and to bless His people. Can you complete the poem below?

We can't go sledding if we don't have **snow**.

We can't fly kites if the wind won't **blow**.

We can't grow crops if we don't have **rain**.

God made the weather—we shouldn't complain!

I love all kinds of weather!



God controls the seasons and the weather to accomplish His purposes. How do you act when you like the weather? How do you act when bad weather changes your plans?

Draw a picture of the weather each day this week. Thank God for the weather He sends!

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

answers will vary

OR

Draw the Weather (10 minutes)

This drawing activity encourages kids to creatively express their ideas about weather. **Supplies:** paper, drawing tools

Invite children to draw a weather or seasonal scene, either from today's Bible lesson or any scene of their choice. As they draw, talk about how much we can see of God's character in the weather. Point out weather elements in the kids' drawings and discuss what those elements tell them about God. Remind them that even though the weather and seasons constantly change, God does not change—He is the same yesterday, today, and always!



Closing Prayer

Praise God together for various weather conditions and for the seasons. Thank God that He is in control of all those things. Praise God for protecting and watching over us with His unchanging love.

Closing Words

Today we learned about seasons and weather, especially the rain. What needs rain in order to grow tall and strong? That's right—plants! Next time we'll learn all about Bible-times plants and herbs and how important they were to the people.



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Use Your Five Senses—Explain how the five senses are connected to the brain.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D3 for:

XploreMore Discover more about God's unchanging nature.

SwordWork Read Mark 13:1-23.

WorldWatch Explore Wolof culture.

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! The kids are caught in severe weather.

KeyVerse Memorize Leviticus 26:4.

HymnNotes Discover the lyrics to "America, the Beautiful."

DiscipleSkill How to Memorize God's Word Use Your Five Senses

God made your amazing brain to remember the things you touch, taste, see, hear, and smell. It also remembers what you think about and learn in school!

Draw a line from the sense to the body part that sends the message to the brain.

				hear
				touch
				taste
				see
				smell

Class Code **12**

Seasons and Weather Verse Leviticus 26:4

WORD WORK

What did Jesus say would be destroyed?

the Temple

Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D3

Disciple Guide—page 12

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—

DiscipleZone.com

—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



Big Idea God created plants and herbs for people to enjoy.

Bible Passage *The Twelve Spies—Numbers 13-14*

Knowing God *He Is Love*

Lesson Summary

Moses sent twelve Israelites to investigate the Promised Land they hoped to soon inhabit. They came back with appetizing grapes, figs, and pomegranates, as well as a report of the intimidating fortifications and people. The Jews allowed the news to divert their trust from God, and the result of their fear was forty years of desert wanderings. Of the twelve spies, only Caleb and Joshua, who urged the people to put their trust in God to take the land, were promised that they would live in the land one day. In this lesson, children will learn of the types of plants and herbs common in Bible times and how God lovingly provided all the green growing things for our use. They'll also discover that trusting God is always the right choice, no matter what the situation.

Bible Background

As God promised, both Joshua and Caleb lived through the forty years in the desert. Moses passed the role of leading the Israelites to Joshua with the charge to be strong and courageous. Caleb, who was forty years old when he spied out the Promised Land, approached Joshua after entering the land and reminded him what God had promised. When Caleb was eighty-five, Joshua gave him Hebron as his inheritance because he had followed the LORD wholeheartedly (Joshua 14:6-14).

Teacher Devotional

Does listening to or reading the world news give you the shivers? Wars, diseases, financial crashes, natural disasters, and crime are often the top stories. News headlines can have the same impact on us that the spies' report had on the Israelites—fear, anxiety, and panic. But like Caleb and Joshua, we are assured that God controls all things and can be trusted to shelter us in any circumstance. Practice reminding yourself that God is loving and trustworthy each time you hear bad news this week. By the time you teach your class, you'll have a stronger trust in the Lord that will show through to your children.

My loving Lord, I praise You for the bountiful plants and fruits You gave for me to enjoy. I'm blessed. Thank You for Your enduring promise to be my all when I trust in You. Teach me to trust You more and more, so I can teach the children to do the same. In Christ's name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • Because God loves us, we can trust Him to provide what's best for us. (Numbers 14:18a)
- N** • The Promised Land produced wonderful food for God's people. (Numbers 13:27)
- O** • Only two of the twelve scouts trusted in God's love and power. (Numbers 14:8)

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Confident that God loves them.
- E** • Amazed at the fruitfulness of the Promised Land.
- E** • Courageous in their faith, believing that God is for them in every situation.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Explain how they know God loves them.
- O** • Name several fruits and vegetables of Bible times.
- DiscipleSkill—Believe in Your Brain: Explore the incredible power of their brains.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Thank God for creating delicious fruits and vegetables, and all the other useful plants in the world. Praise Him for showing His great love for us. Ask God to help the children learn to trust Him wholeheartedly.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 4 of 12—David Livingstone—Off to Africa *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

David listened to a missionary speak about Africa. Everything the missionary said excited David. At last, David knew that he wanted to be a missionary in Africa.

Travel to Africa required a four-month boat voyage. Once the boat landed in Africa, David rested a few weeks before he began the 600-mile trip north to the missionary station at Kuruman. Along the journey, David had many reminders that Africa was very different from Scotland. He encountered animals, plants, birds, and reptiles that he had never seen, and the warm temperatures were very different from the weather back home.

When at last the group arrived at the missionary station, David was disappointed to see so few African people. Where were the Africans? He also wondered why there was a missionary station in an area with few African people. Far to the north, he could see the distant smoke from the fires where the Africans lived. Determined to be where the people he came to serve lived, David and another missionary, Roger Edwards, headed off to the north with two Christian Africans who would be their guides and translators. What would they find as they ventured away from the safety of the mission station?

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Children have some very real fears. If a child expresses a fear or worry, help him or her understand that God is more powerful than anything they fear and always faithful in taking care of them. If you have personally experienced a similar fear, share how God's faithfulness and love helped you. Be sure to inform the child's parent of the child's expressed fear.

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

KeyVerse

Topic: Plants and Herbs

Reference: *Psalm 103:8*

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag and let children try to guess what is inside (plush heart). Have a child remove the heart from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Ask the children to come up with actions that demonstrate some of the words. For instance, "slow" can be demonstrated by acting in slow motion and speaking the word in a slow, protracted way. "Abounding" can be expressed in a high leap or bound. "Love" can be shown as the hands creating a heart shape, or both hands over the heart. After agreeing on the motions, say the verse together several times using the motions until it becomes familiar.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is Love—He gave His only Son.
(wrap arms around self)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 13-16)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

Shepherd's Bag, seed packet

Spark Interest

•TASTE AND SEE: various Bible-times foods
•ABC'S OF LOVE: none

Explore Scripture

Teaching Picture 1D.7—Bible-times garden
Teaching Picture 1D.8—Spies with grapes

Inspire Action

•NUMBERS DRAMA: none
•GOD'S LOVE MURAL: butcher paper

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Taste and See (10 minutes)

This taste and smell activity introduces plants and herbs of Bible times. **Supplies:** Bible-times plant foods such as figs, pomegranates (or juice), dates, olives, grapes or raisins, barley, lentils, ground cumin, whole coriander, black pepper

Bring the spices in containers you can open for the children to smell. Have enough of the plant foods for children to sample as they choose. Explain how the items were prepared. Lentils were used in stews, often in place of meat. Barley, a grain, was cooked and also ground to make delicious cakes. Figs, dates, grapes, raisins, and pomegranates were eaten as fruits. Olives were made into oil. Ask children if they've tried any of these. Tell them God created every plant we know and use.

OR

ABC's of Love (10 minutes)

This word game emphasizes how God has given many things to children because of His love for them.

Play a version of the alphabet game in which the first person says, "Our loving God created..." and names a plant that begins with "A," the second with "B," and so on. If you want to make the game more challenging (and last longer), have each person name all the previous items on his or her turn. (If the class gets stuck on "Q," there's always "quince," for "V," there are vanilla beans and vegetables, and for "Z," zucchini. "X" is the really hard one. You might suggest "extract of _____" or "extra sweet _____"!)

God lovingly provides all the plants we use today! Today's Bible story will mention some of the fruits that grow in the Promised Land.

Disciple Guide—page 13

Discuss not only how God is loving, but that God is love (1 John 4:8). Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a Spark Interest activity.

Plants and Herbs

13

God loves His creation and His people.
Nothing is greater than God's love.

Use the hearts to write the correct letters on the line below.

God is

God loves me more than anyone else does!

LOVING.

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Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Numbers 13-14

Open your Bible to Numbers 13-14. Write “12, 40, 2, 1” on the board. Tell the children that because this story is from the book called Numbers, they should make an “X” on their papers each time they hear you say a number.

God’s people were excited—they would soon enter the Promised Land! God had promised to give the land to His people many years ago. He said it was a land flowing with milk and honey. God loved them and wanted His people to enjoy this good land. You can see why God’s people were excited. They couldn’t wait to live there and build homes and gardens. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.7 of Bible-times gardening.



The Israelites had stopped at the edge of the Promised Land. The LORD said to Moses, “Send twelve men to explore this land I am going to give you.” Moses chose twelve scouts. He told them, “Go see what this land is like. Check out the people who live there. Are they strong or weak? Are there many of them? Where do they live? Is the land good for growing crops? Bring back some fruit from the land.”

While the rest of God’s people waited at their camp in the desert, the twelve men spied out the land. When they came back after forty days, the spies told Moses everything they had seen. “The land is wonderful. Just like God said, it ‘flows with milk and honey.’ There’s lots of fruit.” Show the Teaching Picture 1D.8 of the men and grapes. They showed Moses one gigantic cluster of grapes carried on a pole, along with figs and pomegranates.



But then they told Moses, “The cities are huge and protected like fortresses. And some of the people in that land are giants!” That was bad news! God’s people were afraid of the strong cities and giants. One man said, “Everything in this land is very big—we’ll be as small as grasshoppers compared to the people there!”

But Caleb, one of the explorers, said, “Quiet, everyone! We should go conquer this land. God has sent us here—with His help, we can surely do it!”

From the twelve men who spied out the new land, only two—Caleb and Joshua—believed that God would do as He promised to help them defeat the giants and strong cities. But the people didn’t trust God. Instead they cried and complained to Moses: “We’re going to die here or become slaves again. Let’s go back to Egypt!”

Caleb and Joshua spoke again. “God loves us, and this land is His gift to us! Don’t rebel against God. Don’t be afraid. The LORD is with us!” Instead of listening, everyone wanted to throw stones at the two men. God heard the people whining and complaining. He said to Moses, “After all I have done for these people, how can they still refuse to believe in Me?” Moses asked God to forgive them for not trusting Him.

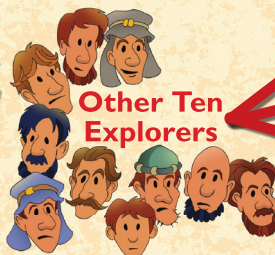
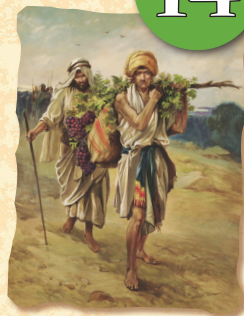
The LORD agreed to forgive them, but they would be punished for their choices. Only Caleb and Joshua, the two who trusted God, would get to live in the wonderful Promised Land. Everyone else would wander for forty years in the desert and never see the new land.

14

Twelve Explorers Numbers 13-14

God’s people were amazed at the fruits and vegetables from the Promised Land, but they were afraid of the people who lived there.

Who said what? Draw lines to the people who said each statement.



“The LORD is with us!” (Numbers 14:9)

“Don’t be afraid of them!” (14:9)

“The cities are walled!” (13:28)

“The people are giants!” (13:33)

“They are stronger than we are!” (13:31)

“We can overcome them!” (13:30)



Why do you think God's people chose not to trust God? They started worrying. God tells us to listen and to trust in Him—He will help us do what is right. When we don't obey, we get into trouble like His people did. God wants us to be like Caleb and Joshua—to trust Him and remember that His love will not fail.

Congratulate the children on counting the numbers during your story. (There were twelve mentions of numbers.)

Disciple Guide—page 14

Emphasize that only Caleb and Joshua trusted God to give the people the land He promised them.

Disciple Guide—page 15

Talk about other Bible-times plants and herbs as kids color. Complete the HeartBeat, discussing ways they can learn to trust God more.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Numbers Drama (10 minutes)

This dramatic activity reviews the Bible story.

You will play the part of Moses. Divide the class into the following groups. The first group is the ten explorers; their part is found in Numbers 13:27-29, 31-33. The next group is Joshua and Caleb; their part is found in Numbers 13:30 and 14:6-9. The third group is the people of Israel; their part is found in Numbers 14:1-4 and 14:10. Give each group a chance to read their verses and tell them you will ask what they think about going into the Promised Land.

Begin by asking the ten explorers what they discovered on their trip to the Promised Land. (They answer according to Numbers 13:27-29.) Then say, **Caleb, what do you think?** (13:30) Turn back to the explorers, who insist on their opinions as found in Numbers 13:31-33. Now turn to the people of Israel, who grumble and complain according to 14:1-4.

Turn back to Joshua and Caleb, and ask if they have anything else to say (14:6-9). After they respond in faith, ask the people of Israel what to do. They say to stone Joshua and Caleb (14:10)!

Now tell everyone you are going into the tabernacle to talk with God about this. (Step out of the room for just a moment.) Return and tell the class, **God wanted to give you this wonderful gift, but you are afraid, and are grumbling and complaining. Now God is very angry. I asked Him to forgive all of you, and He did, but because of your lack of faith, you must wander as shepherds in the wilderness for forty years. He will give your children the Promised Land. Only Joshua and Caleb will live in the Promised Land.**

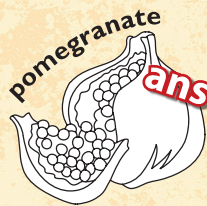
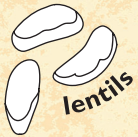
If you wish, reflect on the story with the class. How could they have responded in faith?



15

Bible-Times Plants

God gave His people beautiful land that produced tasty food. Color the Bible-times food you have eaten.



God created plants and herbs for people to enjoy. How will you believe and trust God to help you today?

answers will vary

God's Love Mural (10-15 minutes)

This group art activity gives children a chance to express thanks for God's gifts of love. **Supplies:** markers, crayons, colored pencils, butcher paper

Before class, write this heading on the butcher paper, "In Love, God Gave..." Ask children to choose a section. Invite them to draw trees and plants they like, then any other things God has given them that they're glad to have. Have each artist sign his or her work. After the art is done, mount the mural on the wall at child's eye level and let children point out what they've drawn.

Closing Prayer

Thank God for His abounding love. Ask Him to help the children trust His love even more. Ask the Lord to help them be firm in doing what is right, even if they are afraid.

Closing Words

God created everything on earth in six days. God made the first plants on the third day of creation. Can you guess what God created on the sixth day? Come next time to find out!



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Believe in Your Brain—Help kids appreciate the power and ability of their minds.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D4 for:

XploreMore Discover more about God's love.

SwordWork Read Mark 13:24-37.

WorldWatch Observe *Wolof* practices.

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! Paul learns why wild plants can be dangerous.

KeyVerse Memorize Psalm 103:8.

HymnNotes Explore the lyrics of "America, the Beautiful."

DiscipleSkill How to Memorize God's Word **Believe in Your Brain**

God knows and remembers everything! He created your brain to store millions of thoughts and facts, just like a huge computer. Your brain stores memories of people, places, things, and ideas.

Twelve billion nerve cells tunnel through your body like a microscopic super-highway. They send billions of messages back and forth every second. The number of separate routes is amazing!

How many nerve cells can you draw inside this brain? _____

answers will vary

Plants and Herbs Nerve Psalm 103:8

HymnNotes Who do we thank for our country?

God

Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D4

Disciple Guide—page 16

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—

DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



Big Idea God made animals for people to care for and enjoy.

Bible Passage Creation—Genesis 1-2

Knowing God He Is Our Redeemer

Lesson Summary

Most children who have been in church know something about God creating the world and everything in it. This lesson focuses on God’s creation of animals of every kind, and His mandate for Adam to name the animals and be in charge of (have dominion over) them. In this lesson, the children will find out about Adam’s task and how God assigned humans to have control over and responsibility for animals. The children will also come to see that Jesus is their Redeemer, paying the price for their sins.

Bible Background

Before the sixth day of creation, God had already populated the seas with fish and swimming creatures, and the sky with birds. On the final day, He made the most sophisticated earthly creatures—land animals and human beings. Although God created all animals, only human beings were created in His image. And only humanity received God’s command to care for and have control over animals, birds, and fish.

Teacher Devotional

If you were an animal, which one would you be? That question reveals interesting facets of a person’s personality. It also showcases the vast variety of creatures God made. Animals provide us with so many object lessons and reminders. We laugh at the antics of chimps in the zoo. We cuddle with puppies and kittens and recognize the power of lions and cleverness of squirrels. Each and every creature you see or hear is a prompt to praise God. How can you not praise Him—His creations are just plain amazing! You’ll enjoy the observations and thoughts of your students as you share about animals this week. God uses children to teach you, just as you teach them.

Dear Father, Your Word is so rich and full of life lessons. Please refresh my spirit as I see Your creation in a new light. Renew my understanding of Your love as I consider how You gave Yourself as a Lamb to be sacrificed for me. Give me the ability to convey truth to the children, leading them to You. In Christ’s name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • Jesus is the Redeemer who pays for humanity’s sins. (Isaiah 59:20)
- N** • God created animals and made humans to be in charge over them. (Genesis 1:24)
- O** • Adam’s first job was naming every animal. (Genesis 2:19)
- W**

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Grateful to Jesus for rescuing them.
- E** • Sensitive to care for God’s creation, including the animals.
- E** • Fascinated about Adam’s job to name all the animals.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Thank Jesus for paying for their sins.
- O** • Create an original creature and name it.
- DiscipleSkill—Learn the Topic and Bible Reference; Memorize topics and references when learning verses.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Thank God for each child by name. Praise Him for His astounding creativity in making every kind of animal. Ask God to show children what it means that Jesus redeemed them from their sins.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 5 of 12—David Livingstone
—**Attack!** *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

David listened and looked at the Africans who spoke the unfamiliar language. How could he reach their hearts with the Good News about Jesus, if he couldn't speak their language? So David determined to quickly learn the Bantu language.

The tribe watched every move David made as he treated the sick people. They often touched his hair that was so different from theirs. When a chief asked for medicine to change his heart, David held up the Bible and said it was the only medicine that could change a person's heart.

One day David and some tribesmen went to hunt a lion that had been bothering the tribe. David shot the lion, but as he reloaded his gun—the lion attacked him. The lion grabbed David in his mouth and shook him until one of the other men was able to kill the lion. Badly injured, David was carried back to the other missionary, Mr. Edwards. Because David was the only doctor, he instructed Mr. Edwards how to clean and treat his wounds. Was this the end of David's days as a missionary?

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Children use their senses for learning in a more active way than most adults. The more "sense oriented" your lesson, the more the kids will be drawn into the lesson and the better they'll remember what they've learned. Seek to incorporate auditory (sound), tactile (touch), verbal (words), and even olfactory (smell) aspects into lessons often. The children will respond and the lessons will be more fun and interactive.

KeyVerse

Topic: Animals

Reference: *Genesis 1:25*

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag and let children try to guess what is inside (toy animal). Have a child remove the toy animal from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Divide children into three groups. Ask one group to make wild animal noises (eagles, bears, elephants, etc.). Ask the second group to make livestock noises (cows, sheep, horses, etc.). Ask the third group to make "crawling creature" noises (snakes, reptiles, insects, etc.). Recite the Bible verse together. Point to the appropriate group when you reach the phrases indicating their animals—pause and have the children make their animal noises. Repeat until the children have memorized the verse.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is the Redeemer—Christ paid for all our sins.
(form a cross with arms, then bow head)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

- More activity ideas
- *Explore Scripture* teacher notecards

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

- Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 17-20)
- Pencils, markers, crayons
- Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

- Shepherd's Bag, toy animal

Spark Interest

- FAVORITE ANIMALS: none
- REDEEMER: DiscipleLand puppets, play money, item children would value

Explore Scripture

- Teaching Picture 1D.9—Animals in the garden
- Teaching Picture 1D.10—Adam and the animals

Inspire Action

- NEW ANIMALS: various art supplies
- ANIMAL GOODS: animal products

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Favorite Animals (10 minutes)

This brainstorming activity sparks kids' interest in animals.

Tell children that today's lesson is about animals. Each child will decide which animal is his or her favorite and why. One by one, let kids act and sound like their favorite animal, while others guess. Once guessed, write the animal on the board and ask if any others chose this as their favorite animal. Make tally marks beside the animal name. Then choose another volunteer to imitate his or her favorite animal. Continue the process until everyone has voted for his or her favorite. Ask children to name other animals they know from Bible-times stories. Help by giving clues so the children include these in their list: cows, sheep, camels, donkeys, goats, horses.

OR

Redeemer (10-15 minutes)

This object lesson explains why we call Jesus our Redeemer. **Supplies:** an object a child would value, play money, two DiscipleLand or other puppets

Ask two volunteers to act out a drama for you using puppets. The first puppet should go to the second and "sell" the item in his or her possession. The second puppet should act very greedy and give only a little money for the item. The first puppet is very sad and explains how he or she had to sell the item to pay for a window he or she broke.


Now step in and offer to buy back the item for the first puppet. The "merchant" wants all your money. Explain that because you love the first puppet, you will give all your money to buy back the item. The merchant is surprised and frustrated.

What I did was called "redeeming." I redeemed, or bought back, the [item] for [Puppet name]. That's like what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross. Hold up the item. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, it was like they sold all our lives to sin. Point to the "merchant" puppet, who shrinks away, embarrassed. But when Jesus

came and died on the cross, Hold up the "money" you gave. He bought our lives back! He redeemed us! That's why we sometimes call Jesus our Redeemer.

Disciple Guide—page 17

Help the children understand the concept of redemption. Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a Spark Interest activity.




Animals 17

God sent Jesus to pay the price for our sins. We are no longer slaves to sin because God forgives us.

Starting with the "R," go clockwise and write every other letter in the spaces below.


START (and end!)



Jesus set me free!

God is our

R E D E E M E R .



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Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Genesis 1-2

Open your Bible to Genesis 1-2. If you used the “Favorite Animal Poll” activity, refer to children’s choices of animals to start the Bible story. Otherwise, ask children to share their favorite animals. Ask them to name some animals that have strange or funny names, such as platypus, porcupine, aardvark, etc.

Do you know how all these animals got their names? Do you think God named them? God created them, but He didn’t name them. So who did?

Let’s start at the beginning to see if we can find out! The very first book in the Bible is Genesis. Help the children find Genesis 1:1 in their Bibles. Read it aloud. Now that is exciting! The Bible tells us that on the first day, God created light and dark. On the second day, He created sky and water. On the third day, He made all kinds of plant life. On the fourth day, He created the sun, moon, and stars. On the fifth day, He made birds and fish. And on the sixth day, God created every animal that moves on



land! Name the animals the children named. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.9 of the animals. God made all those, and lots more. Wow, God is creative and powerful!

But God didn’t name them. He had more to make on this sixth day of creation. What do you think God created next? God made the first person! He made a man, named him Adam, and placed him in a beautiful garden—the garden of Eden.



Then God gave Adam his first job. In Genesis 2:19, God brought every animal to Adam. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.10 of Adam and the animals. What do you think

Adam thought when God brought a huge rhinoceros right up to him? Or a hooting monkey? Or a tall giraffe?

Because God created Adam in His image, Adam was creative, too. God asked Adam to think up the names for all the creatures God had made. What a fun job that must have been!

Once Adam finished naming the animals, God saw that Adam was still alone, so He decided to create one more person. God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep. He took a rib from Adam’s side and used it to make the first woman. Her name was Eve. God blessed them and said, “Be in charge of and care for all the creatures on earth.”

God loved these people so much. He gave them work to do, food to eat, a beautiful world to live in. God wanted this to last forever.

But one day Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and sin came into the world. How sad God must have been! God required people to sacrifice some of the animals they cared for to pay for their sins. God’s people did this until His Son, Jesus, came and died on the cross. Jesus died to pay for those sins—He bought us with His blood. We call someone who pays for something like that a “redeemer.” Jesus is our Redeemer because He redeemed us—He paid for our sins.

Lesson 5

18

The First Animals Genesis 1-2

Follow the trails to complete each sentence.

God created the animals...

Adam’s job was to...

God told Adam to...

God made animals...

name every animal.

on the sixth day.

before He created people.

be in charge of the animals.

Name different animals God created that...

...swim in the sea

...fly in the air

...walk or crawl on the ground

Answers will vary

Caring for animals is a big job!

God created animals for us to care for and enjoy. We should continue to care for all animals just as God cares for us. And animals can remind us of the time when people had to make sacrifices to have their sins forgiven. Animals can remind us to be thankful to Jesus for being our Redeemer.

Disciple Guide—page 18

Help the kids name different kinds of animals.

Disciple Guide—page 19

Discuss ways people care for animals. Encourage children to draw a picture of them caring for any animal they like.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

New Animals (10-15 minutes)

This craft enlarges children's understanding about the creation and naming of animals. **Supplies:** sturdy paper, markers or crayons, feathers, fake fur, leather pieces, felt pieces, cotton balls, googly eyes, glue, scissors

Challenge children to create a new kind of animal and come up with a name for it. Provide various art materials so they can add fur, feathers, wool, etc. to give texture and details to their animal. When everyone has finished, have children share their creation and its name. Let them tell how they would take care of this special animal—what kind of food, shelter, etc. it would need. **That was fun, wasn't it? Everyone made such great animals! We can't actually create new animals, can we? Who is the only One who could do something like that? How can we care for the animals God has created and given to us?**

19

Living Gifts from God

Draw yourself caring for or enjoying an animal.



answers will vary



God made animals for people to care for and enjoy. Thank God for forgiving your sins and for giving you all you need!

OR

Animal Goods (10 minutes)

This object lesson shows children how useful animals are to their lives. **Supplies:** various animal products (see below)

Bring in goods made from animal products, such as a wool sweater, a violin bow made of horsehair, silk made from silkworms, or a down pillow filled with goose or duck feathers. If you want to avoid awkward questions, try to limit your items to products that don't involve an animal's death to create. Pass the products around and let the children feel them. Discuss other ways that animals bless our lives. Ask children for ways they can care for the animals God has given them.

Closing Prayer

Give children a chance to praise God for His creation of animals. Lead them in thanking Jesus for being their Redeemer. Let children pray for requests. Thank God for answered prayers.

Closing Words

Which creatures haven't we learned about yet? Next time we'll hear about flying and crawling critters! See you then!



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Learn the Topic and Reference—Introduce the concepts of topic and reference in Bible memorization.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D5 for:

XploreMore *Discover more about Jesus the Redeemer.*

SwordWork *Read Mark 14:1-11.*

WorldWatch *Learn more about the Wolof people.*

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! *Chip goes to the veterinarian.*

KeyVerse *Memorize Genesis 1:25.*

HymnNotes *Learn the tune to "America, the Beautiful."*

20

DiscipleZone.com

Class Code **20**

Disciple Skill

How to Memorize God's Word
Learn the **Topic** and **Bible Reference**

When you memorize a Bible verse, it stays in your brain. This formula will help you learn Bible verses better: **T + R**

T = **topic** (what the verse is about)
R = **reference** (where it is in the Bible)

This week's verse is about **Animals**. That's the **T**, or **Topic**.
Genesis 1:25 is the **R** or **Reference**.

Write **Animals** and **Genesis 1:25** on this card. Practice saying the topic, reference, and Bible verse.

Topic: animals **5**

Reference: Genesis 1:25

God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

Animals Verse
Genesis 1:25

Xplore More

What word means "to be in charge of"?

dominion

Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D5

Disciple Guide—page 20

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



◦ **Big Idea** God designed every small creature to fulfill His purposes.

Bible Passage *The Ten Plagues—Exodus 8-10*

Knowing God *He Is Perfect*

Lesson Summary

God has a purpose for every creature under heaven, even the ones people consider insignificant or pesky. Today the children will see how God used insects to help persuade Pharaoh to set the Israelites free. Insects played a role in three of God's ten plagues on Egypt. God brought a plague of gnats and then a plague of flies to all of Egypt, and finally God sent a plague of locusts to eat up everything green in the land of Egypt. In looking at such small and seemingly insignificant creatures, children also will grow in their understanding of God's perfection.

Bible Background

Egypt was a powerful, wealthy country. The people were sophisticated compared to other nations of the time. And their ruler, the Pharaoh, was very proud. He couldn't believe that the God of his Israelite slaves could be more powerful than he. God brought torment after torment on the land, afflicting not just the stubborn Pharaoh but also all his people. Each plague God sent showed the weakness of Egyptian gods. Pharaoh chose to harden his heart against God until the sixth plague was upon the land. At that point, God hardened Pharaoh's heart, for the purpose of displaying His power so that His name would be proclaimed in all the earth

(Romans 9:17). It wasn't until God caused every firstborn son, including the Pharaoh's own child, to die, that he relented—but then only temporarily. Pharaoh was against God from start to finish, and it cost him and his people a very high price.

Teacher Devotional

In God's creation of birds and insects, we receive delightful gifts. Small pleasures like marveling at the hatching of new birds from speckled eggs or having a ladybug land on your arm, or catching lightning bugs—all these would be lost if God had not chosen to populate our planet with small things. In preparation for this lesson, try paying extra attention to the birds and insects in your locale. Be like a child again, observing these simple creatures. Choose to let them remind you of God's perfect character.

Heavenly Father, I praise You for being the perfect, holy God who created every living thing. Restore to me an appreciation for all that You have made. As I enjoy these smaller creatures, remind me of how valuable my students and I are to You. Give me new understanding of how significant my role as teacher is. Teach me and teach the children this week to revere You and to take pleasure in what You've made. In Christ's name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)
- N** • God uses creation to show Himself to people. (Romans 1:20)
- O** • God sent three plagues of insects to make Pharaoh set the Israelites free. (Exodus 8, 10:12)
- W**

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Amazed that God cannot make mistakes.
- E** • Curious to know more about birds and bugs.
- E** • Assured that God controls everything in creation.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Thank God for His perfect plan.
- O** • Name the insects God sent to plague the Egyptians.
- DiscipleSkill—Use the "Memory Formula": Apply the T+R+V+R technique.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Praise God for His perfect care over each child and yourself. Thank God for each child by name and ask Him to open their minds and spirits to what He wants them to learn.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 6 of 12—David Livingstone—A Wife and Family *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

Slowly David recovered from the lion attack, but he would never again be able to raise his arm up to his shoulder. Earlier at the missionary station, David had met the daughter of the missionary who had first told David about Africa. Mary Moffat had lived most of her life in Africa, spoke the language, and loved the country. It was clear to David—she would be the perfect wife for him!

After their wedding, David and his wife returned to a tribe where the chief had asked for medicine to change his heart. Now the chief was ready to follow Jesus. Even though no one else in the tribe chose to follow Jesus, David was encouraged that his efforts made a difference in this man's life.

David and Mary had several children. Each time David traveled off to a new tribe, Mary and the children went with him. The other missionaries were very upset that he put his family in danger, but Mary insisted on staying with her husband and keeping the family together.

David continued to explore Africa. On one trip, David looked at the great Zambezi River and imagined it as God's highway that would bring missionaries into the heart of Africa with the message of Jesus Christ. As David planned to explore farther into Africa, he sent his family to Scotland. Now what plans did God have for David?

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Be attentive to your children's needs and individual abilities. At this age level, some kids are excelling and others may need a little extra help to keep up. Be sensitive in how you do this, because they are becoming aware of their educational differences. Find opportunities to provide success for a struggling child, and you will have done him or her a great service.

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

KeyVerse

Topic: Review

Reference: *Genesis 15:6; Psalm 86:11; Leviticus 26:4; Psalm 103:8; Genesis 1:25*

Memorization Activity: Review the past five verses by hiding the five objects in the Shepherd's Bag. Choose five volunteers to each put a hand in and take out an object, then do their best to recall the verse that goes with that item.

Collect the items and make a circle. Read the first verse from your Bible and let the children pass the object related to it around the circle as they say the verse. Do a couple of repetitions. Then exchange that verse's object for the next one and repeat the process.

When all five verses have been recited, let the children give each other high fives for hiding God's Word in their hearts.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is Perfect—He never makes mistakes.
(move head side-to-side, signifying "no")

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 21-24)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

Shepherd's Bag, previous five memory objects

Spark Interest

•FINGERPRINT BUGS: ink pads, markers
•PERFECTLY IMPOSSIBLE: none

Explore Scripture

Teaching Picture 1D.11—Birds
Teaching Picture 1D.12—Moses and Pharaoh

Inspire Action

•BIRD NESTS: lunch bags, nest material, string
•UP CLOSE: insects or bird, magnifying glass

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Fingerprint Bugs (10 minutes)

This art activity sparks kids' fascination with insects. **Supplies:** white paper, ink pads, fine-tipped black markers

Help the children make several thumbprints on their paper. Then they can add features to make them into bugs. By putting several prints end-to-end, insects like ants can be created. Dragging a finger a few inches makes a worm. If there's time, they can add habitats for their bugs. **God, who is the perfect Creator, made all the birds and insects. In our lesson today, we will see how He used them in a most unusual way.**

OR

Perfectly Impossible (10 minutes)

This object lesson demonstrates that only God is perfect.

Ask all the children to stand. You'll make statements intended to show the children that everyone makes mistakes...except God. Once a statement applies to them, children sit down.

- **If you've ever forgotten your name, sit down.**
- **If you've ever dropped something and it broke, sit down.**
- **If you've ever forgotten to say "please" or "thank you," sit down.**
- **If you've ever become angry at someone, sit down.**
- **If you've ever sinned in any way, sit down.**

By now, everyone should be sitting. Tell children that every person in the world would sit down by now, because everyone has sinned. **But God would still be standing, if we could see Him in the classroom. God is perfect. What does perfect mean? It means excellent and always right, with nothing wrong. Nothing in the world is perfect, and no person is perfect. Only God never makes mistakes. So that means everything He does and makes is perfect, too. God, who is the perfect Creator, made all the birds and insects. In our lesson today, we will see how He used them in a most unusual way.**

Disciple Guide—page 21

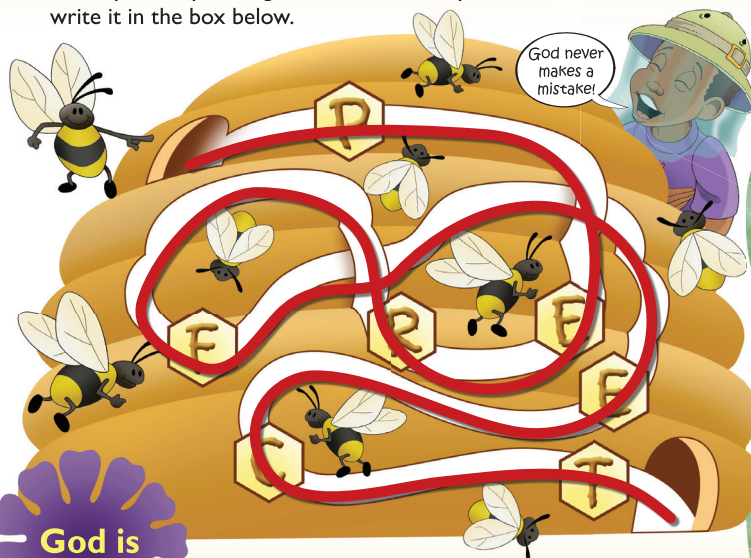
Explain that God never makes mistakes. Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a *Spark Interest* activity.

21



God has no flaws. Everything about Him agrees with everything else.

Trace your way through the maze. When you come to a letter, write it in the box below.



God is

P E R F E C T



Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Exodus 8-10



Open your Bible to Exodus 8-10. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.11 of birds. How many of you know that God can use even small creatures like birds and insects to do His work? After God's people had been slaves for four hundred years in Egypt, God gave Moses the job of leading them to freedom. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, wanted to keep the Israelites as slaves. God used His little creatures, insects, to help Moses persuade Pharaoh to let the people go.

God told Moses he would bring special kinds of trouble, called plagues, on the Egyptian people. The first time, God changed the water of the Nile River into blood. Then He sent a plague of frogs up from the lakes and rivers into the homes and yards of the Egyptians. Pharaoh begged Moses to take away



the frogs, and so Moses agreed. But when the blood and the frogs were gone, Pharaoh changed his mind and wouldn't let God's people go. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.12 of Moses and Pharaoh.

Then the LORD told Moses to tell his brother, Aaron, to hit the dusty ground with his rod. When Aaron did, the dust turned into gnats—little tiny bugs that crawled all over the people and animals—in their ears, in their eyes, in their noses. But in spite of all those gnats, Pharaoh's heart was still hard, and he wouldn't let God's people go.

Next God sent flies to crawl all over the Egyptian people. No flies bothered God's people, but the Egyptians were going crazy with the flies. Finally Pharaoh said, "Okay! You can go worship God. Now pray to get rid of all these flies!"

So Moses prayed to the LORD, and God took all the flies away. But guess what? Pharaoh didn't keep his word. He didn't let the slaves go. So God sent more plagues. Nearly all the horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep, and goats of Egypt died. Then God made everybody break out in really bad blisters. And next, God sent a terrible thunderstorm with so much hail that all the plants and trees were destroyed.

Pharaoh still had a hardened heart. So Moses told Pharaoh, "Let my people go! And if you don't, tomorrow there will be so many locusts that you won't even be able to see the ground, and the locusts will eat everything in sight!"

Pharaoh refused. So the LORD made the wind blow from the east all day and all night. And by morning, the wind had brought millions of locusts. They covered the ground and ate everything in Egypt, just as God promised. There was nothing green left in the land.

Pharaoh quickly called Moses back and said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God. Now forgive me and pray to your God to take all these locusts out of here!"

So Moses went out and prayed to the LORD, and He changed the wind to a west wind, which picked up all the locusts and blew them into the Red Sea. Not a single locust was left in Egypt.

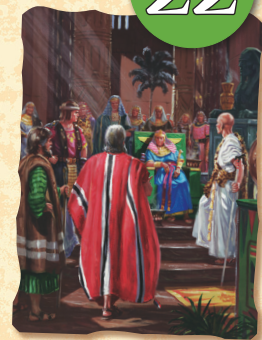
Isn't God powerful? He can make millions of insects come and go as He pleases. God did these miracles to show His people how perfect He is. Everything God does is perfect.

22

Moses and Pharaoh Exodus 8-10

Decide if each sentence is true (T) or false (F).

- Pharaoh didn't want to set God's people free.
- Moses was the king of Egypt.
- God sent a plague of flies to Egypt.
- God wanted His people to leave Egypt.
- God sent a plague of locusts to Egypt.
- The plagues happened all by themselves.
- God sent a plague of birds to Egypt.



Bugs can be annoying!

But they are part of God's creation!

Tell how you would make each false sentence true.



After the locusts, Pharaoh still didn't let God's people go. It took two more plagues to persuade him. The first was three days of pitch-black darkness and the other was the death of all the firstborn children of Egypt. On that night, God spared the lives of the Israelite children, and He set them free from Egypt.

Insects can sometimes be pesky and annoying to us, but they are all part of God's perfect plan. Bees can sting, can't they? But they also carry pollen from flower to flower, helping to make new plants. And they make delicious honey. Tiny insects do exactly what our perfect God made them to do!

Disciple Guide—page 22

Review the Bible story as children decide which statements are true.

Disciple Guide—page 23

Offer other examples of lessons that animals can teach people about God.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Bird Nests (10 minutes)

This craft activity highlights the skills God placed in birds and emphasized His perfect creative ability. **Supplies:** brown lunch bags, quantities of dried grass, twigs, moss or lichen, string, shredded paper, real nests (optional), copies of Matthew 6:26 on slips of paper

Each child will make a bird nest. Demonstrate how to roll the bag down so it's three to four inches high. Using the various materials you brought, children can craft a nest in the bag. Talk about how different kinds of birds build nests using grass, mosses, mud, and sticks. Some use their own feathers for softness and warmth. If you have a real bird's nest, show it. Have children weave a strip of paper holding the Bible verse into their nesting material. Talk about the balance of nature, such as how birds eat insects such as mosquitoes and flies. Encourage children to praise God for something they learned about birds.

23

Small Wonders



What lessons can we learn from God's creatures? Match each creature with the lesson it teaches.



Birds watch over babies in their nests.



Ants work hard and obey the queen ant.



Eagles soar high on great wings.



Caterpillars turn into butterflies.

People can be born anew through Jesus!

God cares for His children.

We can obey leaders and work hard.

God helps us do great things!



God designed every small creature to fulfill His purposes. During this week, find a bird or insect and watch it closely. Praise God for that creature. Tell Him what is cool about the bird or bug.

Answers will vary



Up Close (10 minutes)

This object lesson shows children God's living creations. **Supplies:** insects or bird, magnifying glass

Bring some live insects or a pet bird in a cage to class. God had a mighty purpose for the insects He sent to Egypt. God makes every creature with infinite, perfect care, and He has a purpose for each one in our world today. Show the creatures you brought. Let kids use a magnifying glass to observe details about them such as eyes, legs, mouth, even a heartbeat. Experience the wonder of God's attention to detail and His care for creatures that are so small and short-lived. Why do you think God made these creatures? (Possible answers: these insects provide food for other animals; they pollinate plants; they show His creativity and sense of humor.)

Closing Prayer

Allow children to praise God for His creation of birds and insects. Praise Him for His perfection and that He uses everything, including bugs, to do His work. Thank the Lord that He causes all things to work out for our best in His perfect plan.

Closing Words

We've learned about plants, animals, insects, and birds. Next time we'll move to a special place where Bible-times people bought and sold plants, animals, and birds. Do you know what it was called? Come next time to find out the answer!



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Use the "Memory Formula"—Teach kids the formula of T+R+V+R for Bible memorization.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D6 for:

XploreMore Discover more about God's perfection.

SwordWork Read Mark 14:12-31.

WorldWatch Explore Wolof culture.

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! Cy learns to value all God's creatures.

KeyVerse Review the previous five verses.

HymnNotes Examine the legacy of "America, the Beautiful."

DiscipleSkill How to Memorize God's Word Use the "Memory Formula"

Class Code **24**

Review Verse Last five verses

DCP Live! What was "bugging" Cy? **mosquitoes**

Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D6

When you memorize a Bible verse, it can help you live God's way. The "Memory Formula" will help you: T + R + V + R

- T** = topic (what the verse is about)
- R** = reference (where to find it in the Bible)
- V** = verse (the words of the Bible verse)
- R** = reference—say it again!

Use this formula to memorize every Bible verse!

Topic	Animals	5
Reference	Genesis 1:25 (NASB)	
Verse	God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.	
Reference		

Draw lines to connect the **T**, **R**, and **V** with the words on the Bible verse card.

Disciple Guide—page 24

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



Big Idea *God provides everything His people need.*
Bible Passage *Marketplace in Tyre—Ezekiel 27:12-24*
Knowing God *He Is Our Provider*

Lesson Summary

In early Bible times, commerce developed slowly as cultures refined their ability to grow or make products that people would trade for. But unlike today, buying and selling was directly tied to the essentials of life. Most modern children take buying and selling for granted, considering it a pastime rather than a means to provide a family’s basic needs. This lesson shows them the variety of goods available during the time of the prophet Ezekiel and how people obtained those goods. More importantly, they will learn that God provides everything they need, either directly or indirectly.

Bible Background

In 538 B.C., the prophet Ezekiel prophesied about the fate of the Phoenician city of Tyre, a next-door neighbor to Judah. This prosperous (and sinful) city sat along a coastline—trade routes passed through it to Mesopotamia and Egypt. Tyre and Judah competed for trade, so when the Babylonian armies defeated Judah, Tyre received the bulk of the trade riches. Ezekiel 27 compares Tyre to a ship that eventually sinks. Nebuchadnezzar partially conquered Tyre thirteen years later, and Alexander the Great finished the job in 332 B.C.

Teacher Devotional

In today’s world, we can buy or borrow most anything we really need. But we sometimes overlook God’s role in giving us good things. We also tend to not recognize God’s answers to prayer. Try keeping a prayer journal that records your prayer requests and tracks God’s answers. Your faith and devotion to God will be dramatically affirmed when you see provision coming directly from the hand of the Lord.

My Father and God, I know You are the One who gives all that I have and enjoy. Forgive me for forgetting to thank You and appreciate Your gifts. Renew in me a heart of expectation as I await Your gifts and acknowledge their origin. Give me a fresh understanding of how You provide so I can pass on that understanding to my students. Open their hearts to grasp how much You bless them with good things. In Christ’s name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God provides everything we have and will ever need. (Acts 14:17)
- N** • Bible-times people came to the marketplace to buy and sell goods. (Ezekiel 27:24)
- O** • In Bible times, people traded their own goods for things they needed. (Ezekiel 27:13)

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Thankful for all God has provided.
- E** • Fascinated by the wares and goods available during Bible times.
- E** • Grateful to live in a time when necessities are readily available.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Thank God for specific things He has provided.
- O** • Play a trading game.
- DiscipleSkill—Make Memorizing Easier: Learn their Bible verses word-for-word.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Thank God for each child by name. Praise God for being the provider of all things, including His Word. Ask the Holy Spirit to draw the children's attention to what He wants them to learn.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 7 of 12—David Livingstone—God's Protection *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

After putting his wife and four children on a boat for Scotland, David Livingstone found many problems kept him from leaving South Africa. As each problem arose, David trusted God and soon knew why God had delayed him. An angry tribe had burned the village where David was headed. David would have been killed if he had left South Africa when he had planned. David knew that God was watching over him and protecting him from harm.

God continued to protect David from death as he battled a fever for nine weeks. Lying in his bed, his mind often quoted the verse about a cheerful heart being good medicine (Proverbs 17:22). He didn't waste time feeling sorry for himself. Instead he wrote detailed descriptions of animals and the many rivers and lands that he had explored the past twelve years.

When David recovered, he gathered many men to travel with him. One day they came across the uncle of a chief that David knew. This man had captured several men from another tribe and was going to sell the men as slaves. David knew this was wrong. He prayed and trusted God to help him. David talked to the uncle, and amazingly he watched as the man released his prisoners. In this lonely time without his family, David had discovered God's care and protection.

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

When you discuss a topic, review a Bible story, or talk about lesson applications, ask open-ended questions. This encourages children to think about what they're learning and makes the information more personal. Their answers also provide you insight into how well the children understand what you've taught and how their minds work.

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

KeyVerse

Topic: Marketplace

Reference: James 1:17a

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag and let children try to guess what is inside ("for sale" sign). Have a child remove the sign from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Have kids recite the Bible verse with you as they face the front of the classroom. Then have them say it facing the back of the room. Have them say the verse facing both sides of the room. Finally have children say the verse, turning from the front to the side to the back to the other side of the classroom with each word. Continue until the whole verse is said. Repeat one last time in the same way, but go in the opposite direction so that children do not get dizzy.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is the Provider—He always meets our needs.

(raise hands with palms facing you, then lower hands)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

- Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 25-28)
- Pencils, markers, crayons
- Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

- Shepherd's Bag, "for sale" sign

Spark Interest

- MARKETPLACE MURAL: butcher paper
- WHO PROVIDED?: various items

Explore Scripture

- Teaching Picture 1D.13—Tyre
- Teaching Picture 1D.14—Bible-times marketplace

Inspire Action

- GOD MY PROVIDER: magazines
- MARKETPLACE TRADING: various items

Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Ezekiel 27:12-24

Open your Bible to Ezekiel 27:12-24. If a Bible-times person like David or the prophet Ezekiel came to our time, they would be so surprised and amazed at what we wear, the selection of food we have to eat, and all the things that we put in our houses. In Old Testament times, every city and town had a local market where farmers sold their fruit, vegetables, and grain, and craftsmen sold their pots, metal and cloth goods. People went to a marketplace to buy or trade for what they needed. They had very simple things.

In many cities, the marketplace was at the city gate. This was a really important place in a city where people received important news from the surrounding towns, met the city leaders, did business, and found things they needed to buy or trade.

Traders and merchants would have spaces and booths on the streets where they sold or traded food, cloth, pottery, oil for lamps, animals, leather, baskets, and other things people needed for everyday life. Cities started to grow and traders started to take their goods to other places where people wanted special cloth, food they couldn't get in their towns, and other items such as jewels and spices.



In the book of Ezekiel, the prophet named Ezekiel tells about the colorful, beautiful, and special things in the marketplace in a city called Tyre. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.13 of Tyre. Tyre was

beside the ocean, so ships from other countries came there and brought their best goods. At some shops in the Tyre market, you could find metals like silver, iron, tin, and lead. Because Tyre was on the coast, there would be people selling fish. I'm sure that the smell got quite strong! Then there was a street full of horses and mules to buy. They could be used to carry things, to plow the farmers' fields, or to fight in times of war.

Some traders used ivory tusks from elephants and ebony wood to trade for what they needed

from the Tyre sellers. Some traders came to Tyre to find beautiful material in turquoise and purple, precious jewels of coral and rubies, and embroidered cloth.

Most people of Israel were farmers. They brought wheat, wine, wool, oil, and honey. Other items you could find in the marketplace were iron decorations, sweet-smelling spices, and saddles for horses. If you were there, you could hear the sounds of rams, goats, and lambs—all these animals were traded.



Imagine how busy and crowded it could be in this marketplace! Show the Teaching Picture 1D.14 of the marketplace. People would be bumping up against each other, carrying loads of goods, calling out for buyers to look at what they were selling.

People from many different countries and cities came to Tyre to buy and sell and trade. You could get so many exciting and special things. But most of the people who came there didn't know that everything, from the horses

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Bible-Times Marketplace Ezekiel 27:12-24

Cross out the things that would **not** have been traded at a Bible-times marketplace.



The marketplace was always busy!

and saddles to the wheat and bright cloth, came from one provider. God created everything that people use to make what we have today. God even provided our brains, so we could think up inventions and new machines. No matter what people bought or traded for in Bible times or today, it all came from God, our provider.

Disciple Guide—page 26

Review the Bible story to help children identify what was bought, sold, and traded in the marketplace.

Disciple Guide—page 27

Discuss the many ways God blesses people. Encourage kids to thank God for specific gifts for which they are thankful.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

God My Provider (10 minutes)

This craft helps children connect their own lives with God as their provider. **Supplies:** magazines, scissors, glue sticks, markers

Explain that children will make a poster of things God provides for them. Let them cut from the magazines and make a collage on the paper. Write “God Provides” on the board for them to copy in the center of their paper, then glue the pictures they find around the words. When finished, ask the children to share in a small group (two to three others) what they put on their poster that God provides for them.

OR

Marketplace Trading (10 minutes)

This play-acting activity encourages children to imagine what trading in a Bible-times marketplace might have been like. **Supplies:** items used in the marketplace set up in *Spark Interest* (baskets, cloth pieces, leather, play jewelry, pots, wooden utensils, simple pottery dishes, play food such as plastic grapes, raisins, etc.), shopping lists

On small pieces of paper, make a shopping list with the name of an item to be bought. (If each child has two items to trade, give him or her a two-item shopping list.) Distribute the goods, and then hand out the shopping lists. Have the children barter until they end up with the item(s) on their shopping lists.

27

God Provides for Me

Name things you're thankful God has provided. (Be specific!)



God provides everything His people need.

Thank God for each item you wrote about above.

Draw a smiley face beside ☺ each one after you've thanked God for it.

Closing Prayer

Thank God for providing everything you have and then thank Him personally for something He's given you. Then allow the children opportunity to thank God for something they're thankful for. Encourage them to complete the sentence, "Thank you, God, for providing ..."

Closing Words

It was fun today learning how God provides everything we use, even today! Next time we'll learn about God's role in keeping us healthy and healing our bodies.



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Make Memorizing Easier—Explain how exact memorization is easier and faster than other methods.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D7 for:

XploreMore Discover more about God's provision.

SwordWork Read Mark 14:32-52.

WorldWatch Learn about Wolof customs.

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! The kids learn about wants vs. needs.

KeyVerse Memorize James 1:17a.

HymnNotes Learn "This Is My Father's World."

28

DiscipleZone.com

Class Code **28**

Disciple Skill

How to Memorize God's Word
Make Memorizing Easier

Marketplace Verse
James 1:17a

WORD WORK
Where did Jesus go to pray?

Gethsemane
Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D7

You will actually remember Bible verses longer if you memorize them the right way from the start. So, learn your verses "word-perfectly"—word-for-word. It is easier, faster, and you will remember the verses much longer!

Would you rather do a chore the **hard** way or the **easy** way?
God created your mind so that it is **easier** to memorize word-for-word.

Would you rather finish a job the **fast** way or the **slow** way?
God created your mind so that it is **faster** to memorize Bible verses correctly, exactly as they are written.

Disciple Guide—page 28

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



Health and Healing



Big Idea God gives His people guidelines to care for their bodies.

Bible Passage Naaman and Elisha—2 Kings 5:1-19

Knowing God He Is Our Healer

Lesson Summary

Naaman was an army commander for the King of Aram, a country that did not know the true God of Israel. Naaman had leprosy, a terrible disease. He traveled to Samaria, where his wife's Israelite servant said a prophet could heal him. Naaman first had to resolve his attitude of pride in accepting the simple remedy recommended by Elisha, who wasn't impressed with the officer's status. God chose to heal Naaman, and he went back to his country believing in the one true God.

Because children have all experienced some sort of illness or injury, this lesson will be real and concrete to them. They'll learn about Bible-times healing and leprosy. From Naaman's example, they will know that their attitude influences God's desire to heal. They also will affirm that God is the great Healer.

Bible Background

Leprosy was one of the most feared diseases of Bible times. It was incurable and contagious, and in many cases deadly. In Leviticus, God told the Israelites how to diagnose skin

diseases so they could avoid and treat them. Jewish lepers were required to separate themselves from the rest of the community. God gave the laws in His Word to protect and help His people avoid physical contamination. Leprosy is often used in the Bible as an illustration of sin, because sin is also contagious, destructive, and leads to separation.

Teacher Devotional

Until you've experienced a grave disease or injury, like Naaman's affliction with leprosy, it's common to overlook God's role as healer. But just as Naaman learned, approaching God in humility is applicable to every Christian. In preparing your lessons, do you humble yourself before God as a simple servant and wait for His direction? Ask God to search your heart for any pride that could infect your teaching.

Lord, You are our Great Physician. You heal our bodies, minds, and spirits. Cleanse me today of any pride and teach me more about humility. May the children know You better and trust You more after learning from You this week. In Christ's name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God is the Great Healer of our hurts. (Psalm 103:3)
- N** • God gave His people laws to keep them healthy. (Leviticus 14-15)
- O** • God healed Naaman of leprosy.
- W** (2 Kings 5:14)

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Thankful to God for good health and modern medicine.
- E** • Inspired to trust God to heal them when they're sick or hurt.
- E**
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Explain why God gave certain laws about food and health.
- O** • Pray for those who are sick or hurt.
- DiscipleSkill—Repeat the Verse Often: Apply the "rule of three" to memorization.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Praise God for being the Healer of our bodies, minds and spirits. Pray specifically for any child who is absent due to an illness, and thank God for those who have been ill and are now well. Ask the Holy Spirit to give the children joyful hearts and good health.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 8 of 12—David Livingstone—Journey Completed *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

A roaring noise thundered ahead of David and the others in his expedition. What was causing that sound? David and his group traveled farther and the noise grew louder. Amazed at the beauty in front of him, David stepped into a clearing and was the first white man to ever stand in the mist of this spectacular waterfall. The African name for the falls meant “the smoke that thunders.” The mist that rose up from the water looked like smoke. David immediately renamed the falls Victoria Falls in honor of the queen of England.

After many years, his trip from one coast of Africa to the other was complete. Many times the journey looked impossible, but David discovered that God could do the impossible. He began on the west coast and had made it across Africa to the east coast. A British ship was ready to take him to England. He was excited to share his discoveries, but nothing thrilled him more than the thought that hundreds of missionaries would now be able to reach the tribes David had found. At last he would see Mary and the children. How happy David was, until he read a letter from the London Missionary Society. What did the letter say?

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Help children see prayer at work. When you say you'll pray for children's concerns, do your best to follow up during a later time. Ask the children if they have seen God answer, and let them know you prayed. You can also send a postcard during the week or call the child at home. When prayers are answered, thank God during class prayer.

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

KeyVerse

Topic: Health and Healing

Reference: *Proverbs 17:22*

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag and let children try to guess what is inside (empty medicine or pill bottle). Have a child remove the bottle from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Ask children for ideas on pictures to replace words in the verse. One word at a time, erase a word and draw in a substitute picture. After each substitution, repeat the verse together. Suggested pictures: smiley face inside a heart, a medicine bottle, a broken heart, and bones.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is the Healer—He cares for all the sick.
(feel pulse in wrist)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/download.

SUPPLIES ✓

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 29-32)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

Shepherd's Bag, empty medicine or pill bottle

Spark Interest

•BIBLE-TIMES/MODERN MEDICINE: various medical supplies (see activity)
•THE GREAT PHYSICIAN: guest

Explore Scripture

Rolled paper
Teaching Picture 1D.15—Naaman and the servant
Teaching Picture 1D.16—Naaman and his family

Inspire Action

•WASHING OFF LEPROSY: bowl, flour, water
•HEALING PRESCRIPTIONS: empty pill bottles

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Bible-Times/Modern Medicine (10 minutes)

This hands-on activity compares and contrasts modern medicine with Bible-times healing. **Supplies:** small suitcase or carry-on bag with assorted medical supplies: band-aids, cough medicine, pain reliever, antibiotic cream, thermometer, tweezers, Ace bandage, medical equipment such as stethoscope, etc.

Let children take turns drawing one item out of the bag and talking about what it is and how it is used. Ask children if they've used that item or seen it used. Let them share briefly about experiences with sickness, wounds, hospitals, etc.

Point out that most Israelites never saw a doctor in their lives. They relied on home remedies such as olive oil, salt, wine, plants and herbs, and on advice from other people. More than anything, Bible-times people depended on God's mercy to heal them. People knew very little about germs and hygiene, but God gave His people certain laws that helped them stay healthy.

We have medicines today that cure and heal us from many things. Yet there are illnesses today that our medical doctors are unable to heal. Sometimes we hear reports of God healing people from these illnesses. Most importantly, we know God heals us from things that keep us from following Him. Let's listen to our Bible lesson and see how God healed a man so He would hear the truth and follow Him.

OR

The Great Physician (10 minutes)


This visit from a guest provides children with a testimony of how God heals.

Before class this week, choose a guest who can talk to the class about how God heals. The guest can be a Christian who has experienced God's healing, or a medical professional who can talk about how God heals as a result of prayer along with treatment. If the invited guest isn't a strong speaker for young children, consider doing an interview question-and-answer session with about six to eight questions. Be sure the guest delivers a strong and clear testimony of how God heals from physical and/or emotional illness.

Disciple Guide—page 29


Explain why all healing ultimately comes from God. Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a *Spark Interest* activity.

29



Health and Healing

God's power mends bodies and makes people whole.



God is the

H


E

A


L

E

R



God makes me strong!



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Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

2 Kings 5:1-19

Before class, roll a paper up to serve as a royal letter. Open your Bible to 2 Kings 5:1-19. **The King of Aram was blessed to have Naaman as the commander of his army. Naaman was brave and strong. Even though he didn't know about the LORD God, God had helped him win battles. But now Naaman had a big problem. He had leprosy.**

Leprosy was a terrible skin disease that made a person's skin turn white and scaly. No medicine or doctor could help Naaman. He didn't even trust in the one true God, who could heal him. But Naaman's wife had a servant girl from Israel. This girl knew God was the healer of any disease. One day the servant girl told Naaman's wife, "If Naaman would see the prophet, Elisha, in Samaria, God would cure him of his leprosy."

When Naaman heard this, he went right to the king of Aram to ask permission to go to Samaria. The king agreed and even wrote a letter to the king of Israel, requesting his help.

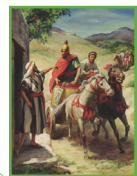
Naaman wanted to make sure he would be healed, so he packed gifts for the king of Israel. Naaman packed 750 pounds of silver and 150 pounds of gold and ten sets of clothes as gifts.

When he arrived in Israel, Naaman went straight to the king of Israel and handed him the letter. Unfurl a "letter" and read: "The man bringing this letter is my servant, Naaman. I want you to heal him of his leprosy. Signed, the king of Aram."

"What?" said the king of Israel. "Do they think I am God, that I can heal someone? I bet your king just wants to invade our land again!"

But Elisha the prophet heard about Naaman. He asked the king to send Naaman to him. So Naaman got back in his chariot and took all his silver and gold right to Elisha's front door.

Elisha didn't answer the door, but he sent a messenger out to tell Naaman, "Go wash yourself seven times in the Jordan River, and you will be healed of your leprosy."



Show the Teaching Picture 1D.15 of Naaman and the servant. Naaman was used to people showing him great respect. "At least this prophet

could come out and talk to me. I thought he'd wave his hand over my leprosy, call on his God, and heal me! Our rivers back home are cleaner than this river here. I'll just go home and wash in my own river!" How would you describe Naaman's attitude? Do you think God would choose to heal someone who is so proud?

Naaman's servants said to him, "Sir, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, you would have done it. So why not just wash and be healed like he says?" Naaman listened to his servants. He trudged down to the river and dipped himself in the water seven times. When he came up, his skin was as good as new! The leprosy was gone!

Naaman and all his servants rushed to Elisha's house. Naaman stood humbly before Elisha. His proud attitude was gone. "Now I know there is no other God in the whole world except the God of Israel! Prophet, please accept my gifts of gold and silver."

Elisha answered, "I can't take any gifts from you, because I'm serving God. He is the One who healed you."

30

Naaman & Elisha 2 Kings 5:1-19

Draw Naaman when he was proud and sick.

BEFORE

answers will vary



Draw Naaman when he was humble and well.

AFTER

answers will vary



Before Naaman left to go back home, he asked for dirt from Elisha's land to remind him about the God who healed him. And he promised, "I'll never worship any other God but the LORD."



And Elisha said to Naaman, "Go in peace." Show the Teaching Picture 1D.16 of Naaman and his family.

God can heal any person of any disease. Sometimes He uses our bodies' natural defenses. Sometimes He uses doctors and medicines. And on rare occasions He heals us when nothing else seems to be working—like Naaman. When we humble ourselves before God, we can ask Him to heal our diseases or the hurts of others.

Disciple Guide—page 30

Reinforce that Naaman needed to change his attitude to allow God to heal him.

Disciple Guide—page 31

Explain that God knows what our bodies need to stay healthy. Complete the HeartBeat, encouraging them to think of how they can help sick or hurting people.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Washing Off Leprosy (10 minutes)

This hands-on activity re-creates God's healing of Naaman.

Supplies: a large bowl, flour and water, a sink, towels.

Make up a paste of flour and water that the children can put on their hands and forearms to simulate leprosy. When they are coated in leprosy, have them pretend to be Naaman coming to Elisha's door. Play the role of Elisha yourself and send a message out telling them to wash seven times in the Jordan River. Have them wash seven times in the sink to be cleansed.

OR

Healing Prescriptions (10 minutes)

This craft activity creates a reminder of how God heals. **Supplies:** colored paper, Bibles, empty pill bottles

List the verses below on the board and let children look up one or more, with assistance as needed. Ask them to copy their choice of verses onto slips of paper, and then roll them up and insert them into a pill bottle. They can refer to the verse the next time they or someone they know is sick or hurt, as a reminder to seek healing from God.

- Proverbs 17:22
- Psalm 6:2
- Isaiah 19:22
- Jeremiah 17:14
- Jeremiah 30:17
- Jeremiah 33:6

31

God and Health

God helped His people stay healthy in Bible times.

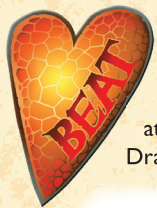
They did not eat certain (dofos) **foods**.

They took a day of (sert) **rest** every week.

They (shewad) **washed** after touching dirty things.

They drank only (lanec) **clean** water.

I know how to stay healthy!



God gives His people guidelines to care for their bodies. When you or someone at home is sick or hurt, how can you help? Draw or write your idea.

answers will vary

Closing Prayer

Ask the children to share about any friends or family members who may need healing. Pray for each child's request. Thank God for answering prayer, for His goodness and care, and for any healing He chooses to give.

Closing Words

God is the great healer—He keeps us alive and healthy. God also protects us. Next time we'll learn about cities and how God—not city walls—keeps us safe from harm.



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Repeat the Verse Often—Demonstrate how repetition aids in memorization.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D8 for:

XploreMore *Discover more about God the Healer.*

SwordWork *Read Mark 14:53-72.*

WorldWatch *Observe Wof practices.*

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! *Cy's little sister gets the measles.*

KeyVerse *Memorize Proverbs 17:22.*

HymnNotes *Meet Maltbie Babcock, author of "This Is My Father's World."*

DiscipleZone.com

Class Code **32**

Disciple Skill How to Memorize God's Word
Repeat the Verse Often

Health and Healing Verse
Proverbs 17:22

HymnNotes
Where did Mr. Babcock write his hymn?

Lockport
Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D8

Children learn most during the first three years of life. This is when the brain grows fastest. By age six, your brain has grown to ninety percent of its adult size. It weighs about three pounds.

Begin learning a new Bible verse. Say the verse three times at breakfast, three times at lunch, and three times at dinner (or before bed). Repeat the verse aloud every day for a week. $3 + 3 + 3 = 9$ times each day.

Disciple Guide—page 32

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—

DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



◦ **Big Idea** *God protects His people from their enemies.*

Bible Passage *Joshua and Jericho—Joshua 6*

Knowing God *He Is Our Shield*

Lesson Summary

Joshua led the Israelites around the city of Jericho for seven days! They were not equipped to take the city through physical means, yet they trusted the Lord to bring them the victory He promised. God proved through the unorthodox means by which He brought down Jericho's mighty walls that His people should trust in His power and protection, not man-made structures. Children will find the story of Joshua and Jericho fun and dramatic, and will connect to the truth that God shields and protects them.

Bible Background

Bible-times cities were fortified with thick, high walls made of mud or stone. The area surrounding the massive walls was modest, and the conditions inside were very cramped. During the growing season, many families would move outside the city walls to grow their crops and enjoy a more peaceful lifestyle. In the past, Jericho had remained secure because of its walls. It had an outer wall six feet thick and an inner wall twelve feet thick. Both walls were thirty feet high with about fifteen feet between them, and they were connected at the top by houses.

Teacher Devotional

Think of a task or responsibility you could undertake that is way beyond your natural ability to complete. The towering wall of your job is doable only because you have the right power source—God Himself. The next time a monumental task becomes yours, follow Joshua's example. Start walking—prayer walking—around the walls. Be ready to do your part, but let God do the heavy lifting. He's waiting to partner with you in all your responsibilities.

Dear God in heaven, my resources are small in comparison to the challenges of everyday life. Even the job of teaching my class is beyond my natural abilities—I can't change their hearts or give them spiritual knowledge. But You can. Thank You for being my strength and shield. Show me how to communicate that reality to my students. May their hearts be soft toward You as I teach them and You mold them. In Christ's name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God is their strength and shield. (Psalm 28:7)
- N** • Bible-times people built large walls around their cities to protect them from enemies. (Joshua 6:1,5)
- O**
- W** • God helped Joshua and the Israelites conquer the city of Jericho. (Joshua 6:2)

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Comforted knowing God is their protector.
- E** • Awed by the way God brought down Jericho's walls.
- E** • Grateful for their own living situations.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Ask God to be their shield.
- Build a Bible-times city.
- O** • DiscipleSkill—Review the Verse Daily: Practice their Bible verses every day.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Begin by thanking God for your community/town/city. Thank Him for protecting you and those who live in your community. Ask the Holy Spirit to give the children an appreciation for the way God shields and protects them.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 9 of 12—David Livingstone—Back in England *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

David stared in disbelief at the letter from the London Missionary Society. He had spent years of his life finding a path across Africa so that missionaries could reach Africans with Jesus' message. Now he read that the mission group would not be sending any more missionaries to Africa. David knew that it really didn't matter if the London group sent missionaries or not—God would!

When he arrived in England, he was together with his family. He received honors and awards for all his discoveries and writing about the land and its animals. David wrote a book, "Missionary Travels." He spoke in churches about the need for people to take Jesus to Africans who had never heard.

When David returned to Africa, his wife, Mary, went with him. Sadly, she became sick and died. Later David returned to England to be with his children. He wrote another book; this one focused on the terrible slave trade that he hoped would soon end. Instead of resting, he spent his time speaking to people about ending slavery. Would David remain in England with his children or return again to Africa?

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Help children view their Bibles as an essential tool to always have available. Affirm kids who bring their Bibles and find ways to use them during class. If appropriate, point them to online Bible resources. Remind children to bring their Bibles.

KeyVerse

Topic: Cities

Reference: *Psalm 28:7a*

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag and let children try to guess what is inside (toy shield). Have a child remove the shield from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Add motions to the verse. Show off a biceps muscle like a strong man for "strength" and hold up a pretend shield for "shield." Have a few children help you lead the group in saying the verse and doing the motions. After several repetitions, let children try saying it to a partner.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is the Protector—He shields us from all harm.
(hold up imaginary shield)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

- Contemporary Dee Cy Paul Chip (Discipleship) story
- Puppet script and lesson "bookends"
- More activity ideas
- Activity templates and downloads
- *Explore Scripture* teacher notecards

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 33-36)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

Shepherd's Bag, toy shield

Spark Interest

- CITY SARDINES: rope, book or toy
- GOD, MY SHIELD: water guns, garbage can lid

Explore Scripture

Cardboard box, broomstick handles or dowels
Teaching Picture 1D.17—People marching
Teaching Picture 1D.18—Jericho's walls

Inspire Action

- SHIELDS OF FAITH: poster board
- OLD CITY, NEW CITY: none

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

City Sardines (10 minutes)

This group activity highlights the close quarters of city life in Bible times. **Supplies:** masking tape or rope, book or toy

Create a circle or square on the floor with tape or rope. It should be large enough for all the kids to stand inside, but be close together. Before doing the activity, talk about what they think it's like to live in a city. Allow each child to share a thought. Tell them there were cities in Bible times, too. **Cities were protected from enemies by big rock walls all around the sides. People had to squeeze inside the walls and live in tiny places, very close together, because there wasn't much room for all the moms, dads, grandparents, and kids. They didn't have garbage trucks, street sweepers, sewer drains, and things like that. Cities could be dirty and smelly because of the animals, garbage, and close living.** Give kids a little feel for how crowded it could be in a Bible-times city by trying to crowd into the circle. Remind them to show kindness and gentleness, then have them all get into the circle. Hand one child a toy or book and ask him or her to pass it to a child on the opposite side of the circle. After that task is completed, call a child from the inside of the circle to come out. After the child works his or her way out, let all the kids return to their seats. Let each child share one thing about your city or community that he or she appreciates.

OR

God My Shield (10 minutes)

This object lesson demonstrates how a shield works.

Supplies: water-filled squirt guns (two or more), small garbage can lid or large pan lid


Draw a shield shape on the board and ask the children to identify it. Have the children talk about what a shield is for and who uses it. Then ask for volunteers: one to hold the shield and as many others as you have squirt guns. Set up guidelines (squirters stand a certain distance from the shield holder, no squirting from behind the shield holder). The rest of the class can watch as the shield holder deflects squirts of water. After you call time or the guns are empty, talk about how differently the activity would have turned out if the shield holder didn't have a way to protect

himself from the water. Then explain that God calls Himself a shield. Ask the children for their ideas of how God is our shield. **Today we will see how God shielded His people, and how their enemies had no protection—even though they were in a city with a big wall around it!**


Disciple Guide—page 33

Discuss how important a shield was to Bible-times people. Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a Spark Interest activity.

33



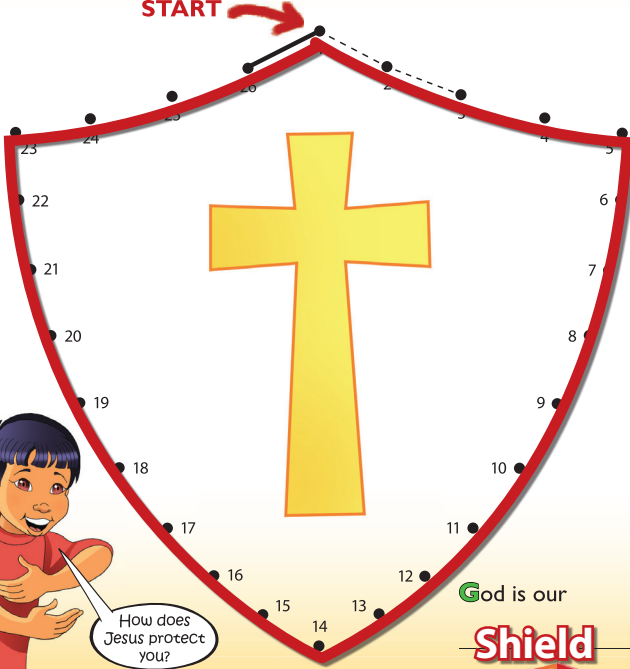
Cities




God protects His people.

Connect the dots. How does this object remind you of what God is like?


START →



God is our **Shield**



How does Jesus protect you?



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Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Joshua 6

Before class, make an “ark” with a cardboard box and attach broomstick handles or dowels to both sides. Also make paper cone “trumpets.”

Open your Bible to Joshua 6. **Jericho was the oldest known Bible-times city. A high stone wall surrounded it.** Have ten kids lie down, head to toe, in a straight line. **The wall was as high as this line of children!**

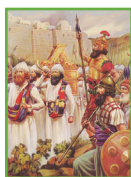
The city wall made the people inside feel safe. Enemies couldn't easily attack them. But the people of Jericho didn't follow the one true God. They didn't have His protection.

God's people, the Israelites, had been walking in the desert for a long time. The LORD showed them how to defeat people who didn't follow God. He was their shield and protected them from huge enemy armies.

The LORD led His people to Jericho. During this time, Joshua was the Israelites' leader. And Joshua's leader was God. He followed God's direction and always trusted God to protect him. When the Israelite army headed toward Jericho, the city closed its gates and put guards there. No one could go in or out.

But the LORD said to Joshua, “I have already given Jericho to you, along with its king and its mighty warriors! Do what I tell you, and the city will be yours. Tell the Israelite army to march around the city once a day for six days. Have seven priests carry trumpets made of ram's horns, and behind them bring the Ark of the Covenant.” Remind kids about the Ark of the Covenant.

Joshua and the people obeyed God. They trusted Him to be their shield and to protect them from Jericho's soldiers. Have the children take roles of soldiers, priests, and the people. Give the priests a box with carrying poles and trumpets. Play the part of Joshua. **The Israelite armed men marched around the city wall. Behind them came the priests blowing trumpets and carrying the Ark of the Covenant. And last came another group of soldiers, the rear guard. The priests blew their trumpets the whole time, but all the**



people were silent. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.17 of the people marching.

They marched around the city. Then they went back to their camp and slept. God's people did exactly the same thing for six days in a row, just as God had commanded. Repeat five more times. Remember—no talking, only marching and the sound of trumpets.

When the sun came up on the seventh day, the Israelite army, the priests, and the Ark of the Covenant started out again. But God had given a different command for the seventh day. This time they marched around the city seven times! Do this with the class.

The seventh time around, when the priests blew their trumpet blasts, Joshua commanded the people, “Shout! For the LORD has given you the city.” All the people shouted as loud as they could.



Have children shout after you. Pause. Have the children stop and be silent. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.18 of Jericho's walls coming down.

Lesson 9

Joshua 6 Jericho's Walls Fall Down

34

Draw a line from each sentence to the picture that goes with it.

The priests carried this as they marched.

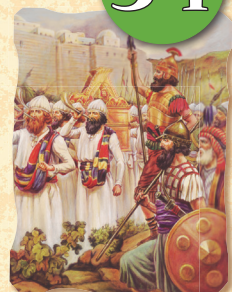
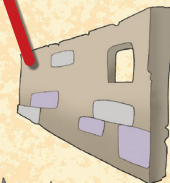
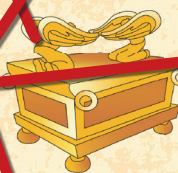
This protected the city of Jericho.

These marched in front of and behind the priests.

The priests blew these as they marched.

God said to march this many days.

The city walls looked like this after the people shouted.



Crack....Crunch!...Suddenly the wall of Jericho was falling down! Let kids cheer.

The wall of stone and brick fell down as though it were made of sand. The people of Israel rushed inside and took over the city. God kept His promise to Joshua and to the Israelites, and gave them the city of Jericho. He was their shield and protector.

When we trust in God, He is a shield for you and me. He's more powerful than anything we will ever face. Have you ever had a hard job? Encourage responses. Whatever you need to do, God wants to help you face your challenges. He is your shield and protector—put your faith in Him!

Disciple Guide—page 34

Help kids match the objects to their role in the Bible story.

Disciple Guide—page 35

Give children an appreciation for how much God protects them every day.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Shields of Faith (15-20 minutes)

This craft creates a reminder of God as their shield. **Supplies:** poster board, cut in half (one half sheet per student), markers, 2" x 8" poster board strips, packing or duct tape, scissors (optional)

Children will decorate a half sheet of poster board as a shield. If desired, they can cut around the outline of their shields. Write "The LORD Is My Shield" on the board and have them write it in large print on their shields. Let them decorate their shields with designs. Tape a poster board strip on the back as a handle. Talk about how God shields us from various fears and helps us face challenges through prayer, our knowledge of Scripture, and through our obedience to Him.

OR

Old City, New City (10 minutes)

This game reinforces similarities and differences between Bible-times cities and modern-day cities.

Designate one part of the room as "Bible Times" and an opposite area as "Modern Times." Tell the children when you make a statement about cities, they'll hop or skip to the side that matches the type of city you described. If the statement is true of both Bible-times and modern-day cities, they can stay in place and do jumping jacks.

Suggested statements:

- Tall walls protect the city from enemies. (Bible times)
- Buses help people get around. (modern times)
- Many people live there. (both)
- Life can be very dirty and smelly. (Bible times)
- Noise can be very loud in cities. (both)
- Sewers and garbage collectors keep cities cleaner. (modern times)
- God protects people in these cities. (both)

35

God Protects

God protects you from harm! Draw yourself in the shield.



I always feel safe with God!



God protects His people from their enemies. Pray and ask God to protect you from harm. Each time you pray, decorate a shield below.



answers will vary



Closing Prayer

Give the children time to think how they need God's protection. Ask God to bless each child with the faith to trust Him. Ask Him to be a shield to each child in the days ahead.

Closing Words

Remember to keep your faith in God's shield of protection. What do you think people needed as they started living together in cities and nations? How about a system of government? Next time we'll learn about how God formed the first government!



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Recite the Verse Daily—Encourage kids to recite their KeyVerses every day.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D9 for:

XploreMore *Discover more about God's protection.*

SwordWork *Read Mark 15:1-15.*

WorldWatch *Spend time with the Wolof people.*

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! *Paul returns from the "big city."*

KeyVerse *Memorize Psalm 28:7a.*

HymnNotes *Discover the lyrics to "This Is My Father's World."*

DiscipleSkill How to Memorize God's Word Review the Verse Daily

Class Code 36

Cities Verse Psalm 28:7a

XploreMore

What piece of armor was most important to a soldier?

shield

Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D9

86

86

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

answers will vary

Disciple Guide—page 36

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—

DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



○ **Big Idea** *God appoints human leaders to carry out His wonderful plan.*

Bible Passage *Moses the Judge—Exodus 18*

Knowing God *He Is Our Judge*

Lesson Summary

Moses spent days settling disputes between the people. His father-in-law, Jethro, came to visit and saw that he could not handle the problems of several million people by himself. So Jethro suggested that Moses teach God’s laws to everyone and appoint leaders to judge smaller groups of people. Those judges handled the smaller problems and brought the more difficult cases to Moses. In this lesson, children will learn that God places every authority in their lives and that they honor God when they follow those who lead them.

Bible Background

In early Bible times, the heads of family clans were leaders and judges. God appointed leaders to guide the Israelites, to lead them spiritually, and to govern them as a society. Later, the judges were individuals who formally communicated God’s messages and gave leadership to the people. The Hebrews depended on Moses to show them where to go, to interpret God’s words to them, to mediate disputes, and to teach God’s ways and laws. However, as the wandering nation grew in size, Moses spent more and more time acting as a civil judge. It took an outsider, his Midianite father-in-law, to offer a useful solution.

The Midianites were the descendants of Abraham’s offspring with Keturah, the wife he took after Sarah died. The name “Jethro” means “his excellence.” Jethro’s other name was Reuel (Exodus 2:18) which means “friend of God.” While not an Israelite, Jethro was a godly man, reminding us that God’s plan includes people from all nations.

Teacher Devotional

Government is a topic that may incite fiery emotions and opinions or total apathy. To God, how we feel about government doesn’t matter so much as how we respond. God wants our respectful submission to those in authority. You expect respect and obedience from the children you teach. That’s what God expects of you in relation to the civil leaders in your life. As you prepare to teach this lesson, let God show you where you might not be properly submissive in your own relationship to authority. It will enrich your teaching, and your personal life, too.

My Sovereign King, I owe You my utmost respect. Point out to me areas where I lack the right attitude toward those in authority. I want to hear Your voice as I prepare this lesson. Teach me from Your Word. Help those I teach respect and appreciate the authorities You have given them. May I model godly attitudes for them. In Christ’s name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God is Judge over all the earth. (Genesis 18:25)
- N** • God places human leaders in authority over groups of people. (Romans 13:1)
- O** • Moses’ father-in-law, Jethro,
- W** gave him wise advice for governing the Israelites. (Exodus 18:19)

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Humbled by God’s authority to judge.
- E** • Thankful for those in authority over them.
- E** • Happy to abide by rules.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Explain why rules are important.
- O** • Identify the leaders in their lives.
- DiscipleSkill—Trust the Holy Spirit: Ask the Spirit to place God’s Word in their hearts.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Praise God for being the perfect leader and Judge of the entire world. Pray that the children show proper respect for those in authority. Ask God to guide leaders to rule with wisdom, strength, and kindness.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 10 of 12—David Livingstone
—**Slaves** *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

David returned to Africa. On one exploring trip, David came upon a long line of slaves being marched off by the slave traders. Men, women, and children were chained or tied together. When the slave traders saw David Livingstone, the man who tried to stop slavery, they ran off and left the slaves. David cut the ropes that tied the women and children. He used a saw to cut through the chains on the men. Eighty-four people rejoiced that David had saved them from a life of slavery. Along the way, David and his group found more slaves they were able to set free. By the time they reached town, they had freed almost 150 slaves. These people who had just been freed were able to understand the message David shared about freedom from sin. The freed slaves became members of a small church that they started in that area.

David continued to explore but spent much of the time sick in bed. While he rested, he read the entire Bible several times. People were getting worried about David. It had been months since anyone had heard from Dr. Livingstone. Where was he, and was he safe?

Missions Education—God’s Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Children this age still have short attention spans. Keep teaching times age appropriate. Use effective transitions from one activity to the next, such as marching or tiptoeing from one part of the room to the next. Keep your classroom prayers short and to the point. Be open to children praying, both for what you and what they have on their minds.

KeyVerse

Topic: Government

Reference: *Romans 13:1*

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd’s Bag and let children try to guess what is inside (toy crown). Have a child remove the crown from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

To help the children learn the verse, hand the crown to a strong reader. Have that child put on the crown and lead the class in saying the verse. Encourage the child to do as you did, pointing to the words as they’re read, to help the class recite in unison. After one recitation, pass the crown to another child who will lead the verse-reading. Continue until all the children have had a turn.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is Judge—He decides what’s right and wrong.
(pound on table with gavel)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

- Puppet script and lesson “bookends”
- More activity ideas
- Activity templates and downloads
- *Explore Scripture* teacher notecards

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 37-40)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

Shepherd’s Bag, toy crown

Spark Interest

- GAME WITHOUT RULES: ball, baskets or boxes
- THE BEST JUDGE: CD player, music

Explore Scripture

Teaching Picture 1D.19—Moses judging the people
Teaching Picture 1D.20—Moses and Jethro

Inspire Action

- LEADERS GAME: cardboard or cardstock, paper clip, paper fastener
- LEADER WALL: magazines, cardstock

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Game Without Rules (10 minutes)

This game demonstrates how being without rules is a disadvantage. **Supplies:** ball, two baskets or boxes

Intentionally introduce this game without rules to show children how rules help people work and live cooperatively together, and that a lack of rules makes things harder. Divide the class into two or more teams (depending on class size). Show the children the two buckets or baskets which you've placed in two different parts of the room. Tell them they have a set amount of time to play (choose the time based on the size of the group and your class schedule). Toss the ball to one team, then step back and see what they do. If they figure out a way to play, let them play a few minutes. If they don't work out a way to play on their own, let them go at it for a few minutes.

Discuss what it was like trying to play a game without rules. Ask how they decided what to do, and what happened. Ask a volunteer to name any kind of rule (don't cross the street without an adult, wash your hands before eating, don't talk to strangers, etc.). Let children share why that rule is necessary and what might happen if no one followed it. Depending on time, repeat with other rules the children think of. Conclude with the point that God knew people needed rules to live together and get along well.

OR

The Best Judge (10 minutes)

This object lesson demonstrates that God is the best judge of all. **Supplies:** masking tape, CD player, music

Create a large shape (circle, square, rectangle, oval, etc.) on the floor, using as much of the play area as possible. Have children take a place on the tape shape, spreading out over the shape as much as possible. Appoint one child as judge—he/she will call out the names of children who step off the tape. Play a medium to fast paced song and have the children hop, skip, jump, or walk backwards around the shape. Tell the judge that his or her job is to catch all those who step anywhere but on the tape. The judge will inevitably miss some

kids who step wrongly, or call the wrong name by mistake. Play for a minute or two, then change judges. Discuss how human leaders and judges make mistakes even when they try hard and do their best. **God is the only perfect judge. He will fairly decide who has kept His law and who hasn't. We can trust Him as our final judge of how we have used our lives and whether we've followed Jesus.**

Disciple Guide—page 37

Talk about what it means that God judges our actions, thoughts, and attitudes. Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a Spark Interest activity.

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God decides what is right and what is wrong.
He declares what is good or evil.

Color in all the spaces that have only one dot.

God is our



Only God has the right to judge people's hearts.



Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Exodus 18

Before class, find out an approximate number of people in your city, county, or the nearest large city the children will be familiar with. Open your Bible to Exodus 18. **About _____ people live in our area. Are you surprised?** Relate that number to the two to three million Israelites. **That’s a huge number of people, isn’t it? God’s people needed something that we have in our city—leaders!**

God is in charge of the whole earth. And He had put Moses in charge of all the Israelites. Moses told them God’s messages, he led them in the right direction, and he reminded them to live God’s way. And Moses was also their judge. So when a person or family had a disagreement with another person or family, they came to Moses. He listened to their problem and gave them a solution. When people needed help, they came to ask Moses. Think how long the line of people would be every day when Moses came from his tent to judge the people’s problems!

God’s people were near a place called Midian. This was the land where Moses’ wife, Zipporah, grew up. Zipporah and Moses had two sons. But they hadn’t seen Zipporah’s father, Jethro, for a long time, so Moses sent his wife and sons to visit Jethro. When they came back, Jethro came with them.

Moses was happy to see his father-in-law. He told Jethro about the amazing things God had done for His people. Jethro was really excited to hear this news. He said, “Praise the LORD! He’s greater than any other god!”

The next day Moses went to work as usual. He left his tent to listen to the people. He sat there all day, until it was dark, helping the people. He was so tired every night. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.19 of Moses judging. Jethro saw how much time Moses was taking with the people.

“Look how many are standing in line to talk with you,” Jethro said. “Why are you doing all this alone?” Moses explained what he was doing.



“This isn’t good,” Jethro told him. “You’re going to wear yourself out—then who will lead these people? Listen to my advice and may God be with you. Teach the people God’s laws, but get some help. Choose trustworthy, honest men. Make them judges over groups of people. Put one man in charge of 1,000 people, and under him, have others who are in charge of smaller groups. If there’s a big problem no one else can solve, then they can bring it to you. The people will go home satisfied, and you won’t get so worn out.”



Moses listened to Jethro’s advice. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.20 of Moses and Jethro. Moses chose leaders who helped judge the people’s problems. And it worked! This was an early form of government in the Bible.

Governments today are run much the same way. Leaders make rules for us to obey, and people in authority enforce the rules.

Moses the Leader Exodus 18



✗ Cross out the incorrect words.

Moses sat all day ~~helping / accusing~~ other people.

Moses’ ~~brother / father-in-law~~ came to visit him.

Jethro told Moses to select ~~teachers / judges~~ over the people.

Moses ~~ignored / listened to~~ Jethro’s advice.

The judges brought only ~~difficult / simple~~ cases to Moses.



Jethro gave Moses great advice!



God has given us leaders in our homes, our church, our city, and our country. When leaders make decisions that we must obey, they are doing the job God gave them to do. When a police officer tells us how to ride our bikes safely, he is doing the job God gave him to do. Our job is to listen, remember, and obey. When our parents tell us to go to bed and get our rest, they are doing the job God gave them to do. Our job is to listen and obey. When we do, we honor God and those in authority over us.

Disciple Guide—page 38

Review the Bible story as children complete the sentences.

Disciple Guide—page 39

Help kids identify leaders in their lives. Complete the HeartBeat, encouraging them to pray for a specific leader.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Leaders Game (10 minutes)

This simple game reinforces the lesson. **Supplies:** cardboard or cardstock, large paper clip, paper fastener

Before class, make a spinner by finding the center point on the cardstock, then dividing the page into four equal sections. Place the large paper clip (the spinner) between the paper fastener and the cardstock. Push the paper fastener through the card stock at the center point and secure on the back. Label the sections: “Moses,” “God,” “leaders,” and “verse.” Color the sections if you choose. You can also download a spinner template at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

To play, each child will spin. When the spinner lands on “Moses,” the child will answer a question about the Bible story. For “God,” he or she will name an attribute or characteristic of God. For “leaders,” the player will name one leader (church, local, home, school, national) and one way that person leads. For “verse,” the child will recite the KeyVerse.

Suggested Bible story questions:

- What was the name of the man who gave Moses advice?
- What was the problem Moses was having?
- Who put Moses in charge of the Israelites?
- What other things did Moses do as the leader?
- What was the advice Jethro gave Moses?
- Who made the leaders we need to follow and obey?

OR

Leader Wall (10 minutes)

This activity spotlights actual leaders the children can pray for and learn about. **Supplies:** photos of local, church, and national leaders, cardstock, glue sticks, markers or crayons

Lay out the leader photos with correct names and titles. Ask the children to each choose one leader and create a decorative picture frame for the photo they chose. They can glue the photo to a piece of cardstock and decorate around it. When all the pictures are “framed,” tell the class each person’s name and what type of leadership role he or she performs. Then mount them on a wall under a

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Leaders

God puts leaders in charge to help other people. What do you call a leader of your...



church? **Pastor / Priest / Minister**



family? **Parent / Father / Mother**



school? **Principal / Superintendent**



nation? **President / Prime Minister**



God appoints human leaders to carry out His wonderful plan. Ask someone at home to pray with you for one leader in your government. Write the leader’s name here.

answers will vary



heading such as “God Gave Us Leaders.” During the closing prayer, each child can pray for the leader whose picture he or she selected.

Closing Prayer

Thank God for creating the system of government He chose for us. Pray that each leader at every level will follow God’s laws and honor Him in their leadership. Let each child pray for a leader by name.

Closing Words

God placed people in authority to carry out His wonderful plan! Next time, we’ll learn about another of God’s ideas—this one goes all the way back to the beginning of people. Any guesses what it is? Find out next time!

Lesson 10



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God’s Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God’s Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Trust the Holy Spirit—Explain the Holy Spirit’s role in aiding with memorization.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D10 for:

XploreMore *Discover more about God’s judgment.*

SwordWork *Read Mark 15:16-32.*

WorldWatch *Explore Wolof culture.*

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! *The kids meet the town mayor.*

KeyVerse *Memorize Romans 13:1.*

HymnNotes *Explore the lyrics to “This Is My Father’s World.”*

DiscipleZone.com logo with Class Code 40

Disciple Skill How to Memorize God’s Word
Trust the Holy Spirit

Government Verse Romans 13:1

World Watch What do Wolof wear to “protect” them?

amulets Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D10

When you learn Bible verses, you become strong in the Lord. His words help you trust Him more and more. And God gave you a helper to learn about Him—the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit helps you:

- Memorize God’s Word, the Bible
- Do what’s right and pleasing to God
- Trust God with hard things
- Remember what you’ve learned about God

This week, ask God’s Spirit to help you with one or more of these things. Check ✓ each box you choose.

Disciple Guide—page 40

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



◦ **Big Idea** *God created marriage for a man and woman to serve Him together.*

Bible Passage *Isaac and Rebekah—Genesis 24*

Knowing God *Jesus Is the Bridegroom*

Lesson Summary

After Sarah died, Abraham sent his servant to find Isaac a Hebrew wife. When the servant arrived in the land of Abraham's family, he prayed for God to direct him to the girl who was to be Isaac's wife. God answered his prayers immediately, showing him Rebekah. Soon, Rebekah and her family agreed that she would become Isaac's wife. Rebekah traveled back to Canaan with Abraham's servant, and Isaac gladly received her as his wife.

This lesson provides the opportunity to teach children what God says about marriage. Children also will begin to understand that certain character traits are desirable in a godly marriage partner. And they'll learn why Jesus is called the Bridegroom.

Bible Background

Marriage started with the very first people—Adam and Eve. Marriage and family have always been important to God and His people. The LORD was at work in the marriages of Noah and his wife, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Rachel, and many other couples. In the book of Hosea, God uses an unfaithful wife as an example of humanity's unfaithfulness to God, but then shows His deep

love for us in the story of her redemption. Marriage is God's idea. It is to be permanent (Matthew 19:6). It is between a man and woman and is the best environment for raising children (Malachi 2:14-15). Marriage is a living symbol of Christ and the Church (Ephesians 5:23-32).

Teacher Devotional

When you were a child, did you dream about and wonder who you would marry and what married life would be like? Where did you get your examples of "a good marriage"? The one thing you hold in common with every other Christian is that you have a perfect example of a mate—Jesus, the Bridegroom. Married or not, you can follow Christ's example and rely on Him as the image of the ideal mate. He's the one partner who won't let you down! That's a truth worth passing on to your kids.

Lord, although my students are young, they already are observing marriage relationships. Help me influence their understanding of marriage according to Your plan. Lead them to see that marriage is Your great idea, and a godly spouse is a gift from You. In those homes where marriage isn't following Your plan, protect and nurture the children. In Christ's name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • Jesus is the Bridegroom of the Church. (Matthew 9:15)
- N** • Marriage is a gift from God. (Proverbs 18:22)
- O** • God answered prayer by presenting Rebekah as a wife for Isaac. (Genesis 24:51)
- W**

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Loved by Jesus, their Bridegroom.
- E** • Confident that God is directing their lives.
- E** • Inspired by the story of Rebekah and Isaac.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Match Bible-times husbands and wives.
- O** • Identify couples who serve God together.
- DiscipleSkill—Transform Your Mind: Ask Jesus to renew their thinking.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Thank God for the children and for their families. Ask the Lord to show how marriage is a very special gift that comes from Him. Praise Jesus for being our Bridegroom and for coming one day to take us home with Him.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 11 of 12—David Livingstone—Dr. Livingstone, I Presume? *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

For many months, no one had heard from David Livingstone. People around the world were so worried about David that an American newspaper hired a journalist, who was also an explorer, to go to Africa and find David. Loaded with equipment, supplies, and mail for David, Mr. Henry Stanley set out into the African wilderness searching for the missionary. He traced David's trails and talked with African tribes.

David was in the town of Ujiju when he saw a very strange sight. An American flag flew high above a long line of oxen carrying boxes surrounded by almost two hundred people. As he stood staring, a smiling white man approached him. "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?" the man asked. David grinned. Mr. Stanley then said, "Thank God I have been permitted to see you, Doctor." David quickly responded, "Thank God I am here to welcome you." Knowing that people cared about him and sent Stanley to find him made David happy. David eagerly read the letters and listened to the news from Mr. Stanley. Would David leave Africa and return to England?

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Become familiar with your children's family situations. The better you know them and their backgrounds, the better you can tailor class discussions to their level of understanding. Don't assume that all the children come from two-parent, stable homes. Be sensitive to issues that some kids might struggle with or be embarrassed about.

KeyVerse

Topic: Marriage

Reference: *Proverbs 18:22*

Memorization Activity: Read the verse from your favorite Bible translation and explain any difficult words or phrases. Bring out your Shepherd's Bag and let children try to guess what is inside (wedding cake topper or photo). Have a child remove the bride and groom from the bag and guess what idea it represents.

Let children stand in a circle and toss the ball around, either from child to child in a circle, or randomly around the group, as music is playing (try playing the "Wedding March"). Stop the music at intervals and have the child holding the ball recite the verse. Others can join in if the child needs help.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is the Bridegroom—He'll make the Church His Bride.
(link arms, bow down)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

- Contemporary Dee Cy Paul Chip (Discipleship) story
- Puppet script and lesson "bookends"
- More activity ideas
- Activity templates and downloads
- *Explore Scripture* teacher notecards

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 41-44)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

Shepherd's Bag, bride and groom photo or wedding cake topper, CD player, music

Spark Interest

- BIBLE COUPLES: cardstock
- JESUS THE BRIDEGROOM: none

Explore Scripture

Teaching Picture 1D.21—The servant and Rebekah
Teaching Picture 1D.22—Isaac and Rebekah

Inspire Action

- MARRIAGE QUALITIES: no additional supplies
- COUPLE INTERVIEW: married guests

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Bible Couples (10 minutes)

This game introduces the theme of marriage and increases the children's Bible knowledge. **Supplies:** cardstock

On each half-sheet of cardstock, write one name from a Bible couple. Write the partner's name on a separate half-sheet. Create enough pairs so that each child will have one name. To simplify this exercise, place matching stickers on the corresponding cards or color-code them. Scramble the cards and hand out one to each child (be sure you give out both names of a couple if you have fewer children than names). Have kids hold their cards in front of themselves. Read each name as you walk past the children. Then ask children to find the wife or husband for their Bible person and stand beside the child with that name. Check that they've matched up correctly or help them do so. Read the married pairs aloud. Ask children if they can think of any other married couples in the Bible. Explain that God gave each couple their husband or wife and that God gives marriage as a gift to us.

Suggested couples:

- Adam, Eve
- Abraham, Sarah
- Boaz, Ruth
- Moses, Zipporah
- Joseph, Mary
- Isaac, Rebekah
- Jacob, Rachel
- Hosea, Gomer

OR

Jesus the Bridegroom (10 minutes)

This discussion introduces Jesus as the Bridegroom of the Church.

Have any of you been to a wedding recently? Did you participate in the wedding? Allow children who have attended or participated in a wedding ceremony to share their experience. Ask them to help name people who participate in a wedding. Make a list on the board as they call out roles: bride, groom, minister, maid of honor, flower girl, etc. Explain that marriage is like a parable—it's a picture of something God wants us to understand.

Marriage is a picture of how the Church—all Christians—are related to Jesus. The Church is the bride, and Jesus is the groom. Married people love each other very much. They serve and care for each other. Jesus loves Christians very much and cares for them.

Disciple Guide—page 41

Encourage kids to decorate the wedding ring in a way that shows their love for Jesus. Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a *Spark Interest* activity.

41



Marriage



Jesus loves His followers like a bridegroom loves a bride. He promises to be faithful to the Church.

Color the letters to show Jesus you'll be faithful to Him.

Jesus is the



BRIDE GROOM



The Church is Jesus' bride!



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Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Genesis 24

Open your Bible to Genesis 24. In Bible times, parents often chose a bride for their son or a groom for their daughter. That's what Abraham did for his son, Isaac. Abraham's family was living in Canaan, far away from the land where he had been born. The rest of his relatives still lived in their homeland.

Abraham told his chief servant, "I don't want Isaac to marry a Canaanite woman who doesn't follow the one true God. Go back to the country of my relatives and find a wife for my son, Isaac."

The servant asked him, "What if the woman I choose won't come all the way back here with me? She might not want to marry someone she's never seen! Will I have to bring Isaac to her?"

Abraham answered, "Oh no, don't do that. God brought us here and has promised to give us this land. He wants us to stay here. God will send His angel ahead of you and help you find the right girl."

The servant promised to do his best. He took ten camels loaded with gifts and supplies and traveled five hundred miles to the town of Nahor. When he arrived, it was evening, and young women were coming out to draw water from the well.

When the servant saw them coming, he prayed, "O LORD, when I ask a girl for a drink, and one says 'Drink, and I will water your camels, too,' may that girl be the one You have chosen for Isaac."



While he was still praying, a girl arrived with a water jar. Abraham's servant asked her for a drink. She answered, "Of course! I'll give water to your camels, too, until they have enough." Show the Teaching Picture 1D.21 of the servant and Rebekah. The servant watched her carry water back and forth from the spring until all ten camels had enough. When she was finished, he asked, "Whose daughter are you? Would your father let us stay with your family tonight?"

The girl answered, "My father's name is Bethuel, and my grandparents are Milcah and Nahor.

We have plenty of straw, and room for you to stay with us." The servant could hardly believe his ears. God had led him right to Abraham's relatives! He bowed down and said, "Praise be to God, who has been so kind and faithful to Abraham!"

The girl ran home to tell her parents what had happened. Her brother rushed out to see the servant. "Come and stay with us!" Abraham's servant told Rebekah's family why he had come to their home.

Rebekah's father and brother looked at each other and said, "Clearly the LORD has brought you here. Yes, let Rebekah be the wife of your master's son, as God has directed." Abraham's servant praised God again. Then he brought out many jewels and clothes for Rebekah and her family.

The servant and the family had dinner together, and the servant stayed overnight. Soon he was ready to go back to Abraham. Rebekah agreed to go back to marry Isaac. She trusted God and His plan for her. How do you think she felt about leaving her family?

Lesson 11

42

Isaac and Rebekah Genesis 24



Circle words that describe Rebekah.

hardworking
generous
bossy
trusted God
kind
afraid
brave
mean
faithful



How do you think Isaac felt when he first saw Rebekah?



Rebekah said goodbye to her family and set off with her servant girls for the long trip. When they were almost there, Rebekah saw a man in the distance. It was Isaac. “Who’s that?” she asked the servant.



“That’s Isaac!” he said. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.22 of Isaac and Rebekah. Rebekah and Isaac met, and Isaac was pleased to have Rebekah for his wife. Isaac loved her very much.

God blessed Isaac—he had a wife who loved God and loved him. Rebekah was blessed—she had a husband who loved God and loved her. When they got married, Rebekah was the bride. What was Isaac? The bridegroom! God uses marriage to help us understand how much He loves us! Jesus is called the Bridegroom of the Church, which means Christians should love Him like a new bride loves her husband!

Disciple Guide—page 42

Guide children to appreciate that Rebekah’s qualities are good characteristics of any marriage partner.

Disciple Guide—page 43

Discuss God’s desires for marriage. Complete the HeartBeat, helping kids identify godly couples they know.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Marriage Qualities (10 minutes)

This memory game teaches children good qualities to seek in a godly mate. **Supplies:** notecards

Create two duplicate sets of cards. List qualities of a godly marriage partner and write each quality on two cards so you have two matched sets. Scramble the sets and lay them face down. Have children turn over two cards at a time and read (or you read) the words. They’ll try to find two identical words. When found, leave the matched pairs face up. Play until all the cards are face up.

Words: loving, serving, faithful, trustworthy, giving, caring, follower of Jesus, gentle, hospitable, honest, kind, gentle, prayerful, happy, fun, dependable

OR

Couple Interview (10 minutes)

This interview activity introduces children to a godly married couple who share from their experiences.

Invite a couple to be interviewed during class. Introduce them as Mr. and Mrs. _____. Ask questions to encourage them to share how God led them together and how they serve Him as a couple. Possible questions: **How did you meet each other? Did you pray about who to marry? How did God show you that you should marry each other? What qualities did you see in your husband or wife that made you want to marry him or her? How are you serving God together?** If there is time, allow children to ask their own questions.

43

A Lifelong Gift

Check ✓ the sentences that are true.

- God gives a godly husband or wife as a gift.
- When deciding to marry, we should only “follow our hearts.”
- God will answer prayers about whom to marry.
- God wants husbands and wives to serve Him together for a lifetime.
- God doesn’t care about whom we marry.



God created marriage for a man and woman to serve Him together. Think of a husband and wife you know who love God and are serving Him together. Write their names here.

answers will vary

Closing Prayer

Pray that God will show the children His plan for them in marriage. Thank Jesus for being the Bridegroom, for His great love for people in the Church. Ask God to help the children love Jesus like a new wife loves her husband.

Closing Words

Marriage is a significant event in a person's life. Can anyone think of other important life events? In our next lesson, we'll learn about two of the most important events in every life, whether Bible-times or modern-day!



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Transform Your Mind—Encourage kids to allow God to renew their thinking.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D11 for:

XploreMore Discover more about Jesus, the Bridegroom.

SwordWork Read Mark 15:33-46.

WorldWatch Learn more about the Wolof people.

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! Dee learns a lesson about marriage.

KeyVerse Memorize Proverbs 18:22.

HymnNotes Learn the music to "This Is My Father's World."

DiscipleZone.com logo with Class Code 44

Disciple Skill How to Memorize God's Word Transform Your Mind

Jesus transforms (totally changes) us by renewing (making like new) our minds. He does that by teaching us and reminding us of what we've learned.

Circle the things Jesus uses to teach us to think God-pleasing thoughts.

- Bible verses we memorize
- Bible stories
- Silly jokes
- Computer games
- Parents
- TV cartoons

Marriage Verse Proverbs 18:22

DCP Live! Who was getting married?

Dee's aunt

Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D11

Disciple Guide—page 44

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—

DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.



◦ **Big Idea** *God directs the birth, life, and death of every person.*

Bible Passage *Sarah and Isaac—Genesis 21, 23*

Knowing God *He Is Eternal*

Lesson Summary

The life-story of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac is a picture of God's plan for people from birth to death. Your kids will rejoice when the childless couple finally has a child and feel sadness when Sarah dies. This summary of Sarah's life will show that while life on earth is not permanent, God is eternal. He carries out His plan through the generations.

This lesson will also focus on the eternal life and forgiveness of sins offered through Jesus Christ. Kids will appreciate that there is only one way to break the life-death cycle—by God's grace through Jesus' death and resurrection. Please see **Good News for Kids** on the inside back cover for more information.

Bible Background

The story of how God promised and delivered Abraham and Sarah's son, Isaac, begins in Genesis 17 where God declares his covenant with Abraham and gives details of how Abraham's offspring will inherit the promise. Abraham was one hundred years old and Sarah ninety when God promised them a son. Sarah had passed her childbearing season (Genesis 18:11), but God showed His ability to do what men think is impossible by giving them a child. Sarah

enjoyed her son for thirty-seven years and died at the age of one hundred and twenty-seven. Abraham went to the city of Hebron and bought a piece of land with a cave on it so that he could bury Sarah there. The cave also became the resting place of Abraham, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, and Leah.

Teacher Devotional

The opposite ends of life—birth and death—bring a range of emotions. For a follower of Jesus, dying on earth is really a chance to begin experiencing the unimaginable richness of heaven—and meeting God in person! As you prepare this lesson, ask God to revise your view of death. Rather than focusing on the loss of someone, convey to your students the perspective that because God is eternal, we'll enjoy Him forever in a really special place. So death is just a change of location, not an end.

Eternal Lord, You are the author of life. Our lives are in Your hands. Grant me wisdom as I teach the children about the realities of life and death, and of the way of salvation. Enable them to grasp Your eternal nature and their need for a Savior. In Christ's name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God is eternal. (Psalm 90:2)
- N** • Sarah and Abraham were very old when God blessed them with a son, Isaac. (Genesis 21:2)
- O** • People who trust Jesus as Lord and Savior live eternally in heaven with God. (John 3:16)

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Secure knowing that all who believe in Jesus will live forever in heaven.
- E** • Happy that God gave Sarah and Abraham a son.
- E** • Sad for Abraham when Sarah died.

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Identify temporal and eternal things.
- O** • Choose to trust Jesus to forgive their sins.
- DiscipleSkill—Guard Your Mind: Keep each thought captive for God.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Praise God for being eternal and for understanding every aspect of our lives. Thank Him for providing an amazing place like heaven for those who believe in Jesus as Savior.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 12 of 12—David Livingstone—The End of His Journey *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on children. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

David knew he was nearing the end of his life. Even though he had accomplished so much, he still wasn't ready to leave Africa. When Stanley returned to America, he wrote wonderful things about David Livingstone.

While David lay in bed with a fever, he thought back over his life. David was sad that he had spent so many years separated from his children. He knew God had called him to Africa, and he wasn't sorry that he followed God's plan. Life had been very hard and full of sickness and dangers, but he felt sure that the message of Jesus Christ would make an impact on the people of Africa. He trusted that God would use the work he began and continue to send missionaries to the African people he loved. God honored David's work, and within a few years several new missionary stations were begun.

In 1873, David died while he was on his knees praying to God. The tribesmen carried his body 1,000 miles to put him on a ship to England. Queen Victoria gave him the honor of being buried in Westminster Abbey, where you can find his grave marker.

Missions Education—God's Great Passion

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Teaching Biblical truths often involves topics that may be sensitive to kids. If you know of situations in children's lives that could make a lesson difficult, talk to the parents before class. Allow children opportunities to voice their thoughts, fears, and concerns about the topics during class and respond with care and gentleness.

KeyVerse

Topic: Review

Reference: *James 1:17a; Proverbs 17:22; Psalm 28:7a; Romans 13:1; Proverbs 18:22*

Memorization Activity: Before class, bring all five memory verse objects and line them up on a table, numbering them one through five. Blow up balloons and write the reference to each Bible verse on a slip of paper and put each paper inside a balloon. On the outside of the balloon, write a number corresponding to the memory verse objects on the table.

Pile the balloons on the floor. Invite students to choose one balloon and guess which verse is inside. Pop the balloon and read the reference. Have the class recite the verse. Continue until all the balloons are popped.

God Is Wonderful

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. For this lesson, teach kids the following:

God is Eternal—He doesn't begin or end.
(move arm in unending circle)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

- Contemporary Dee Cy Paul Chip (Discipleship) story
- Puppet script and lesson "bookends"
- More activity ideas
- Activity templates and downloads
- *Explore Scripture* teacher notecards

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 45-48)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

Shepherd's Bag, balloons, previous five objects

Spark Interest

- WHAT BABIES NEED: various items (see activity)
- ETERNAL: various items (see activity)

Explore Scripture

Toy figures, white cloth, box
Teaching Picture 1D.23—Abraham
Teaching Picture 1D.24—Sarah and Isaac

Inspire Action

- LIFE FOREVER: none
- MY LIFE: construction paper, stapler

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

What Babies Need (10-15 minutes)

This active game highlights the celebration of birth. **Supplies:** assorted baby goods such as lotion, powder, rattles, pacifiers, blankets, clothes, bottles, diapers, diaper bags, etc.

Hide the baby items around the room, either before class or just before the game. Small items can be in plain view. Explain that the goal is to collect the things a baby needs. Have teams gather in one part of the room with a diaper bag (one per team) or paper sack. At your signal, one child seeks out and brings back a baby item and puts it in the sack. Then the next child goes seeking. If players at the end are having a hard time discovering a baby item, other players can give clues.

Everyone starts out as a tiny baby. Do any of you have baby brothers and sisters? They are a lot of fun and a lot of work, too! Do your grandparents come and help with the baby? Usually grandparents are too old to have babies, but they are just the right age to love and enjoy their grandchildren. God has a plan for every baby, every child, every mom and dad, and every grandma and grandpa. God knew the actual minute you would be born. He knew where you would grow up and where you would go to school. He knows who you may marry someday. He knows how many children you will have, and He knows how long you will live! God has a plan for everything that will happen to you!

OR

Eternal (10 minutes)

This object lesson reinforces the truth that earthly things are temporal, but God is eternal. **Supplies:** growing plant, picture of an elephant, an insect in a jar, a toy or piece of clothing, a rock

Let the children handle and examine the items. Ask them how long they think each object would last before it's broken or dead. After children share their ideas, ask them if any of the objects are eternal. Ask them for their ideas of what "eternal" means. Explain that something eternal lasts forever, and has no beginning or end.

Can you think of anything that is eternal? Only God. He wasn't born, He has always been here. And He won't ever die. Are we eternal? No, we were born and our bodies will die. Does that mean our lives are over when we die? No, God says we will live forever after. He promises that if we put our faith and trust in Jesus as our Savior, we will be with Him forever in heaven.

Disciple Guide—page 45

Discuss God's eternal nature. Complete this page at the beginning of class, or after a Spark Interest activity.



Birth and Death

God lives forever. He was never born, and He will never die. When we believe in Jesus, we will also live forever with Him.

Use the code below to complete the sentence:

God is

 E T E R N A L .



Explore Scripture

Teacher—Present the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Genesis 21, 23

Supplies: toy figures of a man, woman, and baby, small white cloth, small box

Open your Bible to Genesis 21,23. Have the toy figures out of sight as you begin. Place the box with the opening on the side. **Today we are going to talk about a very special woman—Sarah, Abraham’s wife. In Bible times, having children was very important for a woman, and the more children the better. But sometimes women couldn’t have babies easily.**



This was true for Sarah. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.23 of Abraham and the stars. God had promised her husband, Abraham, that He would give him as many descendants (children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren) as there were stars in the sky. But for years and years, Abraham and Sarah didn’t have any children. Bring out man and woman toy figures.

When Abraham and Sarah were very old, they had given up the idea of having children. Abraham was ninety-nine and Sarah was eighty-nine years old. Then the LORD appeared to Abraham and said, “Next year you and Sarah will have a son.” Sarah was listening from inside their tent, and when she heard this, she laughed. “Have a baby, when I’m ninety? My husband, Abraham, a father at age one hundred? I find that hard to believe!”

But God can do anything, and sure enough, Sarah became pregnant, and the next year she gave birth to a son. Abraham named their son Isaac, which means “laughter.” Abraham and Sarah were very happy, and they said, “God has brought us laughter! Who would have dreamed that we could have a baby after all these years!” Add the baby figure to the other two.

So Abraham and Sarah raised their son, Isaac, and they all lived happily ever after. Show the Teaching Picture 1D.24 of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac.



Wait! Nobody lives forever on earth, do they? Everybody has to

die sometime. And Sarah was already ninety years old when Isaac was born. She did live until Isaac was thirty-seven years old, and when she was one hundred and twenty-seven, she died. Wrap the woman toy figure in the cloth and lay it down.

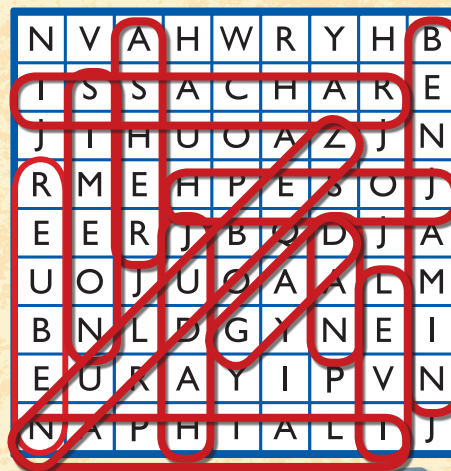
Abraham was very sad, and he cried over his beloved wife. We’re always sad when someone we love dies. And then Abraham wanted to bury Sarah. But Abraham didn’t own any land. So he went to the people who lived nearby in the town of Hebron and said to the people at the city gate, “I am a stranger here, and my wife has just died. Please sell me some land so that I can bury her. I would like to buy the cave at the end of Ephron’s field.”

Ephron, the man who owned the land, agreed to sell it. Abraham buried his wife Sarah there in the cave in Ephron’s field. Tuck the wrapped woman figure in the small box. It was God’s plan for Abraham to buy a little piece of the Promised Land where God’s people would one day live. God had promised that He would make Abraham into a great nation. All of what God said was starting to come true.

Sarah & Isaac Genesis 21, 23

Abraham and Sarah had just one son, Isaac. But Isaac had two sons, Jacob and Esau. Jacob had twelve sons, and from their children came the nation of Israel.

Find the names of Jacob’s twelve sons in the puzzle.



- REUBEN
- SIMEON
- LEVI
- JUDAH
- ISSACHAR
- ZEBULUN
- GAD
- ASHER
- JOSEPH
- BENJAMIN
- DAN
- NAPHTALI



Each of us was born, and we will all die. Only God is eternal. God wants us to live with Him forever, too. However, God does not allow sin in heaven. If we ask Jesus to forgive our sins, we can be in heaven one day with God, too. Lead the kids in a discussion about the Gospel message. See **Good News for Kids** on the inside back cover for more information.

Disciple Guide—page 46

Help children find the names of Jacob's twelve sons in the word puzzle.

Disciple Guide—page 47

Explain that for Jesus' followers, death is not the end. Complete the HeartBeat, helping kids discern their spiritual condition.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Life Forever (10 minutes)

This discussion explains the salvation that results from Jesus' death and resurrection.

Explain how Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection provides a way for us to live forever with Him. Tell students that they can become God's children if they trust Jesus Christ to forgive their sins, no matter who they are or what they've done.

Use a clear presentation of the Gospel message (see **Good News for Kids** on the inside back cover) and be prepared to counsel students individually. Provide a quiet location with no distraction while the rest of the class works on something else. Be sure to follow up personally with the parents of any child who responds to Jesus' invitation.

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What Lasts Forever?

Read each Bible verse and circle the things that will last forever.

Isaiah 40:8 flowers and grass / **God's Word**

Matthew 10:28a our bodies / **our souls**

Daniel 2:44 **God's Kingdom** / earthly nations

Psalms 106:1 **God's love** / money

For Jesus' followers, death is not the end!



God directs the birth, life, and death of every person. He has a plan for your life! The most important part of the plan is choosing to follow Jesus. Have you chosen to follow Him?



OR

My Life (15 minutes)

This craft activity helps children consider God's plan for their lives. **Supplies:** colored construction paper, white paper, stapler, markers or colored pencils

Lead children in folding the construction paper and white paper together into a booklet, and help them staple the fold as the binding. On the board, use the name of a child to write a sample book title, such as "Josh's Life." Each child will write his or her name in the title of the book on the cover. Inside, the children will draw a picture that shows their birth on the first page. If they know their birth date, they can write it and add other people who they know were present at their birth. The next page is a picture of them now. Have them write their age on this page. The third page is a picture of how they imagine they will be as an adult, as a parent, in a job, etc. Have them leave the fourth page blank. On the back cover, they can write the reference to their favorite KeyVerse. Explain that none of us knows when we will die. **That's what the blank page is for. But we can be sure that if we have trusted in Jesus as our Lord and Savior, when that day comes we'll go**

from here to be with God forever. Remind children that the Bible promises that God has a plan for each one of their lives. His plan includes being with Him forever, but we have to make that choice while we're alive on earth.

Closing Prayer

Thank God for giving everyone life and for being our eternal Lord. Pray that the truth of Jesus' salvation and the promise of heaven for eternity will be real to each child. Ask God to help them live in ways that will honor Him.

Closing Words

Close with these words if you will be using the review lesson. **Next time we will celebrate all we have learned! Look through your Disciple Guides and poster at home to help you remember everything for our "Sheep in the Fold" game! I can't wait to see you then!**



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

DiscipleSkill

How to Memorize God's Word

During this quarter, your children will learn the best ways to learn God's Word and commit Scripture to memory. Be sure to explain any difficult words and concepts they may encounter.

Guard Your Mind—Help kids understand the concept of "garbage in, garbage out."

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/1D12 for:

XploreMore *Discover more about eternity.*

SwordWork *Read Mark 16:1-20.*

WorldWatch *Discover God's love for the Wolof people.*

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! *Cy welcomes a new addition into the family.*

KeyVerse *Review the previous five verses.*

HymnNotes *Examine the legacy of "This Is My Father's World."*

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DiscipleZone.com

Class Code 48

Disciple Skill

How to Memorize God's Word
Guard Your Mind

God knows what we think about. He knows that the thoughts in our minds are very powerful. So we need to guard our minds. That means choosing to think upon those things that are good and pleasing to God.

Read Philippians 4:8. Draw arrows → to show the good thoughts God would be glad to find in your mind.

truthful dishonest
shameful pure lovely hurtful

Review
Verse
Last five verses

WORD WORK
Who told the women that Jesus was alive?

an angel

Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/1D12

Disciple Guide—page 48

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—

DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.

Review

◦ **Big Idea** Review the quarter's key concepts and skills by playing "Sheep in the Fold."
Bible Passage Review

Lesson Summary

During these four quarters, your children have studied the homes, family roles, clothes, food, and relationships of Bible times. Your lessons have established a foundation of biblical literacy in your students that will be part of a lifelong heritage and a love of God's Word and His people. This lesson reviews the previous twelve lessons in an active, imaginative way that will further cement truths in their hearts and minds.

Tips for Review

To benefit the most from this review lesson, try some of the following ideas. 1) Look over all the review questions and make sure they reflect what your class was able to cover. Use only the questions your kids should be able to answer. 2) Mark easy or "open-ended" questions that students who are new or who missed lessons are likely to answer correctly. 3) Place the KeyVerses and Teaching Pictures around the room so the children will see them when they enter. 4) Use the poster included in the Disciple Guide to quickly review all the lessons with the kids. 5) If you have invited parents,

provide seats for them to observe and participate. 6) As you ask review questions, remind students what lesson the question comes from, so they will have a point of reference when answering.

Teacher Devotional

Despite the many external changes since Old Testament times, the most important elements remain intact, just as God Himself is unchanging. The central elements of life abide—family, friends, and your faith in the Almighty. Keep those truths in mind as you navigate traffic, surf the Internet, choose between fourteen kinds of apples, and try to cross off one more thing on your "to do" list. Life centers on the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. And now your kids are on the journey of living out that truth. Good job!

My Lord and my God, there is so much going on in this world, yet the center is You. I praise You as the One who holds my life firmly in Your hand. Thank You for helping me teach Your children. Bless and keep them as they grow in their faith and love for You. In Christ's name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God makes Himself known in the Bible through His character and attributes.
- N** • Bible-times people placed God at the center of community life.
- O** • People in church communities work, play, and worship God together.
- W** • God is present and active among His people.

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Excited to know God more and more personally.
- E** • Eager to be a part of their local church.
- E** • Amazed at God's involvement with people.
- L** • Grateful that God is in charge of all aspects of life.

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Build a close, personal relationship with God.
- O** • Participate in church activities and events.
- Honor God and walk with Him daily.
- Memorize Bible verses to help them grow spiritually.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Begin class with prayer, focusing on praise and thanksgiving. Praise God for His character and attributes that everyone has learned. Thank Him for providing many ways and places to worship. Finally, ask God to bless your time together—that it would be a fun time celebrating all you have studied.

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

- More activity ideas
- Activity templates and resources

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

None

Spark Interest

Cotton balls, construction paper, stapler,
butcher paper
Bible-times foods (see activity)

Explore Scripture

Bible-times dress-up clothes, construction
paper, bowl, CD player, music, green
suckers (optional)

Inspire Action

Shepherd's Bag, all KeyVerse objects used this
quarter, small candies or awards

Spark Interest

Setting the Scene (10-15 minutes)

This activity builds interest in the review game as children prepare materials for it. **Supplies:** butcher paper, crayons or markers, cotton balls, construction paper, glue

Download the sheep ears pattern that can be found at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. Cut out headbands (one per child) and ears (two per child). Children can create their own pair of sheep ears by gluing cotton balls to one side of both ear pieces and then, with adult help, stapling the ears to opposite sides of a headband. Tape the headband to fit snugly on each child's head.

In addition, have children create a countryside mural on butcher paper. Encourage them to color grass and rocks or boulders so the mural looks like a sheep pasture might have looked in Bible times. Mount the mural to a wall where the game will be played, to serve as a background.

Snack (5 minutes)

Serve Bible-times foods to students and guests. Choose from cheese, plain or vanilla yogurt, raisins, dates, figs, pistachios or almonds, grape juice, pita bread. Let children tell what they know about Bible-times foods as they sample the items. Encourage everyone to sit on the floor or on cushions and pillows if available, as they eat with their fingers in Old Testament style.

Explore Scripture

Teacher—Use this game to review the lessons.

Sheep In the Fold

This game gives every child at least one chance to answer a review question, and to help each other with their questions.

Supplies: Bible-times dress-up clothes (head covering, shepherd's staff), construction paper "grass" (sheets fringed to resemble grass and numbered consecutively from one through the equivalent number of students), masking tape, bowl of numbers corresponding to numbers on the grass, CD player, music such as harp or flute (to resemble music David might have played) or any other praise music you choose, green suckers (optional).

Tape the "grass" in numerical order to the floor in a winding circular pathway. Be creative with the path to make it fun to walk on (as in a cakewalk).

Create a sheepfold at one end of the room. Use large cardboard, short white picket fencing from a home improvement or garden center, or other material. The sheepfold should be large enough for all the children to fit inside. Wear the head covering and carry a staff—you're the shepherd in charge of the fold!

Sheep will graze in the pasture (suck on green suckers if desired) by walking around on the numbered grass papers. Start the music so sheep start walking. Stop the music at random and pull a number from the bowl. The child standing on the corresponding grass piece will answer a question you ask from the list found at the end of this lesson. If he or she can't answer it, the "sheep" stays in the pasture. Continue the music, then repeat the process. When a sheep answers correctly, he or she comes into the fold, bringing the paper grass in as well. Prompt all the sheep in the fold (as the number grows) to cheer for the one entering. When a sheep who answered incorrectly the first time gets a new question but can't answer it, allow another sheep to help with the right answer. Then both those sheep may enter the fold. Sheep continue walking in the pasture eating grass (sucking their green suckers) until they are all in the fold.

The intent of the game is to make each child feel welcome and confident and to review the information learned during the quarter. Encourage a team-building atmosphere with sheep helping and cheering for each other.

Inspire Action

Teacher—End the lesson with the following activities.

Memory Review

Supplies: Shepherd's Bag, all KeyVerse objects used during the quarter, small candies or awards such as pencils, erasers, stickers, etc.

Place the treats or rewards in your Shepherd's Bag. Place all the objects in a large container. Call on a volunteer to put a hand into the container and pull out an object, then say the KeyVerse it matches. Let other children offer assistance to enable the child to recite the Bible verse. Reward each recitation with a treat from the Shepherd's Bag. If you have more children than objects, ask more than one child to say the verses. Make sure everyone receives a treat for a good effort to recite a verse.

Closing Prayer

Pray together, asking God to bless the children, to help them remember what they have learned, and to grow as His disciples. Thank Him for being present and powerful in everyone's lives and for the fun they can share as a community of believers.

Closing Words

I'm so proud of all of you! We've learned so much about God and Bible-times life. Be sure to keep learning and growing as Jesus' disciples!

Questions

Lesson 1: Tent Living

Q: What did God ask Abraham to do while living in Haran with his father?
A: Leave home and go to the land God would show him.

Q: How did Abraham show God he believed in Him?
A: He obeyed God and trusted God to provide for him and his family.

Q: Why did Abraham build an altar?
A: To pray and worship God.

Q: Who was Abraham's nephew?
A: Lot.

Q: Why did Abraham and Lot go in separate directions?
A: There was not enough water and land to share.

Q: What are the three persons of the Trinity?
A: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Lesson 2: Travel

Q: Name two ways that people traveled in Bible times.
A: By foot, on animals, on boats, or on carts.

Q: Why did Jacob run away from his home?
A: He stole from his brother, Esau, and Esau was very mad at him.

Q: How did Jacob know God was with him as he traveled back to his homeland of Canaan?
A: God spoke to him and sent angels to encourage him.

Q: How did Jacob and Esau become friends again?
A: Jacob took a gift for Esau and asked for his forgiveness. Esau forgave Jacob.

Q: What does it mean that Jesus is the Way?
A: He's the only way to God.

Lesson 3: Seasons and Weather

Q: Describe the weather during the summer months in Bible lands.
A: Hot and dry.

Q: Why was God upset with King Ahab and Queen Jezebel?
A: The worshiped false gods and encouraged people to stop listening to God.

Q: What did God do to punish King Ahab and his people?
A: He stopped sending rain.

Q: What did Elijah's servant see that told Elijah a storm was coming?
A: A tiny cloud over the ocean.

Q: What do the weather and seasons show us about God?
A: Answers will vary.

Q: How does God change?
A: He doesn't. God never changes in any way.

Lesson 4: Plants and Herbs

Q: Why did Moses send twelve men into the Promised Land?
A: God told Moses to find out what the people, cities, and land were like.

Q: Finish this sentence: "God said the Promised Land was a land flowing with _."
A: Milk and honey.

Q: Why did God's people fear going into the Promised Land?
A: They were afraid of the people and cities that the scouts discovered.

Q: Which two men trusted that God would give the people the Promised Land?
A: Caleb and Joshua.

Q: Why did God keep His people from the Promised Land for forty more years?
A: They didn't trust God when they heard about the giants and strong cities.

Q: Whose love never fails?
A: God's love never fails.

Lesson 5: Animals

Q: What did God make on the sixth day of creation?
A: Animals and people.

Q: What kinds of animals did God create?
A: Livestock, wild animals, crawling creatures (all kinds).

Q: What two jobs did God give Adam?
A: To name all the animals and to be in charge of them.

Q: Name two ways people can care for animals and pets.
A: Answers will vary.

Q: Why is Jesus called the Redeemer?
A: He died to pay for our sins since we could not pay for them.

Lesson 6: Birds and Insects

Q: What was the king of Egypt called?
A: Pharaoh.

Q: Why did God send the ten plagues to Egypt?
A: Because He wanted Pharaoh to let the Israelites go free; and Pharaoh kept saying no.

Q: Who told Pharaoh to "Let my people go!"?
A: Moses and Aaron.

Q: Which insects did God use in three plagues to "bug" the Egyptians?
A: Locusts, gnats, and flies.

Q: How does God care for birds?
A: He feeds them and provides for them.

Q: Why is God alone perfect?
A: He never makes any mistakes.

Lesson 7: Marketplace

Q: How did Bible-times people acquire things they needed?

A: They traded or bought items at the marketplace.

Q: Where was the marketplace usually located in a city?

A: At the city gates.

Q: Which prophet did God send to the city of Tyre?

A: Ezekiel.

Q: Name three items that people traded at the marketplace.

A: Cloth, animals, jewels, valuable metals, saddles, etc.

Q: Who provides everything we need?

A: God.

Lesson 8: Health and Healing

Q: What disease did Naaman have?

A: Leprosy.

Q: Who told Naaman's wife that Elisha could heal Naaman's leprosy?

A: A servant girl from Israel.

Q: What did Elisha tell Naaman to do to be healed?

A: Dip his body into the Jordan River seven times.

Q: Why did Naaman become upset and want to return home?

A: He was proud and did not want to obey Elisha and God.

Q: Who keeps us healthy and heals our bodies?

A: God.

Lesson 9: Cities

Q: Why did God tell Joshua to march around the walled city of Jericho?

A: He wanted to show that He would protect them from their enemies.

Q: What did the priests do as they marched around Jericho?

A: Carried the Ark of the Covenant and blew trumpets.

Q: How many days did God's people march around Jericho?

A: Seven days.

Q: What happened to Jericho on the seventh day?

A: God's people shouted and the walls came down.

Q: How is God like a shield to us?

A: He protects us from evil and from harm.

Lesson 10: Government

Q: How did Moses spend most of his days while God's people lived in the desert?

A: He solved the people's problems and acted as their judge.

Q: Who came to visit Moses when he was near the land of Midian?

A: His father-in-law, Jethro.

Q: What advice did Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, give him about being the leader?

A: Appoint trustworthy men to help judge the people's problems.

Q: Why should you obey the people placed in charge of you?

A: God wants us to obey people in authority so we will obey Him.

Q: Who is the judge over everyone and everything?

A: God.

Lesson 11: Marriage

Q: Why did Abraham send his servant to his home country to find a wife for Isaac?

A: He wanted Isaac to marry a woman who followed the one true God.

Q: How did Abraham's servant ask God to show him which woman would be Isaac's bride?

A: He prayed that the woman he asked for water would also offer to water his camels.

Q: Who gave Abraham's servant water and watered his camels?

A: Rebekah.

Q: Who agreed to allow Rebekah go with Abraham's servant to marry Isaac?

A: Rebekah's family and Rebekah herself agreed.

Q: What is God's plan for marriage?

A: God wants a man and a woman to serve Him together for their entire lives.

Q: Jesus is the Bridegroom. Who is His bride?

A: The Church—all Christians.

Lesson 12: Birth and Death

Q: Why was it a miracle that Sarah and Abraham had a baby?

A: Because Sarah was too old to have a baby.

Q: What promise did God keep when Isaac was born?

A: That Abraham would be the father of many nations, and that he and Sarah would have a child.

Q: What happened to Sarah when her son, Isaac, was thirty-seven years old?

A: She died.

Q: Where did Abraham bury his wife?

A: In a cave in the Promised Land.

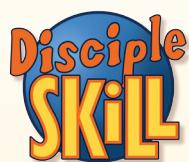
Q: What does it mean that God is eternal?

A: God never was born and will never die. He has always existed.



Teachers partner with parents at DiscipleZone, building a bridge from the classroom to the home. As your children interact with DiscipleZone pages each week, they will review the most recent lesson and prepare for the next one.

Encourage your children to take these steps weekly:



DiscipleSkill

Children develop 24 essential “how-to” skills for victorious Christian living. During this quarter, your kids will learn “How to Memorize God’s Word.” They will discover the joy and power that comes with hiding God’s Word in their hearts!

- View the complete list of DiscipleSkills at DiscipleLand.com/DiscipleSkill



KeyVerse

Kids memorize Bible verses that capture the heart of each lesson. Download a complete list of memory verses for this quarter at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

Register at DiscipleZone.com to create a special message for your kids. You’ll receive a Class Code to give them that grants them access to your customized note.

DiscipleSkill How to Memorize God's Word
Your Amazing Mind

Your brain is one of God's most amazing creations. Like a computer, your brain takes in, sends out, and stores messages. But your brain is much more powerful than any computer! It controls every part of your body. It helps you think, feel, learn, and remember.

Draw a picture of a _____ inside this brain.

Every lesson provides a unique [DiscipleZone](http://DiscipleZone.com) web address that takes children directly to their activities.

DiscipleZone.com is a special website for kids and parents. It provides family-friendly discipleship activities, plus a parent support center. For each **DiscipleLand** lesson, **DiscipleZone.com** includes:



XploreMore

Families grow together, discussing Bible lessons and doing application activities. XploreMore links the classroom and the home. For each Bible lesson, children and parents enjoy extra pictures, background information, discussion questions, and family activities. During this quarter, everyone will explore more of God's greatness and Bible-times village life.



SwordWork

Kids read the entire Bible and answer questions from every chapter (grades 1-12). SwordWork is **DiscipleLand's** Core Bible Reading Plan. During Level One, children read the entire Gospel of Mark. In this quarter, your children will read a few verses each week from Mark 12-16.

- View the entire SwordWork Reading Plan at DiscipleLand.com/SwordWork



WorldWatch

Students participate in God's kingdom strategy for world missions. Throughout this year, your children will experience God's passion for the whole world. This quarter, your kids will encounter the Wolof people of Senegal. Pages 90-91 in this Teacher Guide explain WorldWatch in detail.



HymnNotes

Children learn hymns that have inspired Christians for centuries. Fascinating hymn stories and hymnwriter biographies amplify the treasured tunes and lyrics. This quarter kids will learn "America, the Beautiful" and "This Is My Father's World."



DeeCyPaul Live!

Kids follow the weekly adventures of Dee, Cy, Paul, Chip, and their **DiscipleLand** friends. These engaging stories reinforce each Bible lesson and will help your kids apply God's Word to their lives.





DiscipleLand WorldWatch

Students participate in God's kingdom strategy for world missions. During grades 1-6, children are equipped with a Biblical worldview and challenged to make a difference on a global level.

WorldWatch includes three components

1) Missionary Biography—*Relive an exciting missionary biography (or 12 missionary vignettes) each quarter. Life stories of these missionaries unfold through all twelve lessons. Missionary biographies appear in the Make Disciples section of each lesson.*

2) Missions Education—*Examine one foundational missions education concept each year. World-missions principles are integrated into the 24 Core Bible curriculum themes. Children are introduced to one missions truth during every lesson (288 in all). Download the complete teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

3) Hidden People—*Explore one unreached people group each week at DiscipleZone.com*

This quarter your kids will examine

1) Missionary Biography—DAVID LIVINGSTONE (1813—1873)

“Death alone will put a stop to my efforts!” was the exclamation of the man who died upon his knees in the heart of Africa, praying for unreached people. Such determination as that of David Livingstone can only be understood in the light of Jesus’ words, “I do always those things that please Him.” David Livingstone may be one of the most well-known of all “modern” missionaries, and with good reason. His adventurous spirit, combined with his complete trust in God’s plan and unwavering devotion to the lost in Africa, paints a heroic picture that all children would do well to aspire to. David’s life is proof that our Father in heaven has a well-defined plan for each of His children, and that following that plan leads to life’s completeness or true greatness.

2) Missions Education—GOD’S GREAT PASSION—Cultures of Every Nation

Christianity is not a Western phenomenon, but people can easily forget that other cultures worship God in spirit and truth, using their own unique styles and perspectives. In this quarter, we introduce children to the cultures of other countries. God loves all people, and the kids will see how the Apostle Paul’s technique of meeting people “where they are at” is still used by missionaries all around the world.

3) Hidden People—Wolof of Senegal

The Wolof are an expansive people living in the African country of Senegal. Kids will encounter this fascinating people group and learn how to pray for them to hear God’s message of love and forgiveness.

Missions WorldWatch

Level 1—The Nations Experience God's passion for the whole world.

- A: God's Great Family: People from Every Nation _____ William Carey (India)
- B: God's Great Job: Witnesses to Every Nation _____ Gladys Aylward (China)
- C: God's Great Worth: Worship of Every Nation _____ Nate Saint family (Ecuador)
- D: God's Great Passion: Cultures of Every Nation _____ David Livingstone (inland Africa)

Level 2—The Message Explore God's Book that speaks to the whole world.

- A: The Universal Message: God Speaks Every Language _____ Cameron Townsend (Guatemala)
- B: The "Heart" Message: God's Word Speaks Every Language _____ 12 missionary vignettes
- C: The O.T. Message: Israel Blesses All People _____ Adoniram & Ann Judson (Burma)
- D: The N.T. Message: The Church Blesses All People _____ Mary Slessor (West Africa)

Level 3—The Mission Follow God's Son who came to forgive the whole world.

- A: One Mandate: Obeying the Great Commission _____ Hudson Taylor (China)
- B: Many Messengers: Accepting the Great Privilege _____ Jackie Pullinger (Hong Kong)
- C: Many Methods: Sharing the Great News _____ John Stewart (North America)
- D: Global Mission: Reaping a Great Harvest _____ Mark Zook (Papua New Guinea)

Level 4—The Team Join God's ambassadors who serve the whole world.

- A: The First Team: First Century Revolution _____ Amy Carmichael (India)
- B: The Dream Team: Twenty-first Century Revival _____ 12 missionary martyr vignettes
- C: The Local Team: Church Missions Ministries _____ George Mueller (England)
- D: The Global Team: International Missions Ministries _____ Loren Cunningham (Bahamas)

Level 5—The Plan Embrace God's strategy to reach the whole world.

- A: The Target: Reaching the Unreached _____ Don & Carol Richardson (Papua New Guinea)
- B: The Victory: Celebrating in Heaven _____ Nick & Lynne Swanepoel (Kenya)
- C: The Pioneers: Paving the Way _____ 12 Church history missionary vignettes
- D: The Visionaries: Taking God Seriously _____ Floyd McClung (Afghanistan, Netherlands)

Level 6—The Call Affirm God's invitation to transform the whole world.

- A: World-class Challenge: Counting the Cost _____ Bruce Olson (Colombia)
- B: World-class Preparation: Mobilizing for Action _____ Jim & Elisabeth Elliot (Ecuador)
- C: World-class Opportunities: Following Jesus Everywhere _____ 12 contemporary vignettes
- D: World-class Living: Changing My World _____ Jonathan Goforth (China)



Age Level Characteristics— *Knowing Your Students*

It is essential for you to know each child individually. The following information and examples detail the development of typical six- to seven-year-olds. Remember that this list is generalized for first-graders and will not apply to everyone.

Six- and Seven-Year-Old Children...

- **Are still literal thinkers.** Explain abstract concepts by using simple words and connecting them to concrete examples.

When Paul was six, he heard Jesus was the Bread of Life. He could not understand how a person could be bread. His teacher reminded him how the lion was called the king of the beasts. Then Paul understood how Jesus could be like bread.

- **Learn best by connecting new information to known facts.** Start with familiar things when teaching a new truth.

Dee's favorite Bible story until she was seven was about Samuel getting new clothes every year. Her mom always bought her a new dress for Christmas, so she knew how blessed Samuel was that God provided him with clothes from his mother.

- **Are beginning to build relationships.** Use your relationship with students to build trust and to show them God desires a relationship with them as well.

Cy really liked how his teacher would talk to him not only about God but about basketball too. When Cy was upset about a fight his parents had, his teacher was the only one he thought he could talk to about it.

- **Are learning to stick with a task until finished.** Encourage them often, be reasonable in expectations, and praise their work.



Paul was having a tough time getting his macaroni to stick to the page where he wanted. He was ready to give up and rip the paper in half when his teacher came by and told him he was doing a great job. Paul felt better about his craft and was happy with the finished result.

- **Appreciate following rules and fairness.** Establish and keep your authority by being impartial.

Dee enjoyed her class but realized that Marcy Marny had gotten to pass out the snack the last three times (she had kept track). She wished that other kids had a chance to take on that important role.

- **Want to work together and play with friends.** Use group activities often.

The only time Cy gets to see his friend Jose is at Sunday school. He was disappointed this week that the entire class time was spent on individual activities. He hopes next week they will play a game or work in pairs.

- **Learn through games and activities.** Use all five senses to teach concepts and facts.

One time, Paul's teacher brought some straw and a live lamb into class! The pungent odor really sparked his imagination, and to this day he warmly associates the birth of his Savior with those smells.

- **Love to act out and pretend.** Use role-plays to teach social skills as well as enhance Bible stories.

Dee felt like a star when she got to play Hannah. As she pretended to pray to God for a baby, she realized how much her mom and dad must love her to have adopted her. She ran to them after class and gave them both a big hug.

- **Are self-centered but can usually see from another’s point of view.** Help them put themselves in others’ shoes.

Dee didn’t think laughing at Cy when he jumped was hurtful. The teacher took Dee aside and explained that because Cy liked sports, her laughter hurt him. The teacher asked how Dee would feel if someone said her favorite Chloe doll was ugly, and she understood.

- **Value positive adult attention.** Use children’s names often, recognize their uniqueness, and reach out beyond the classroom.

Cy loved the letter he got from his teacher on Wednesday. It reminded him to memorize his verse and to bring the family picture they had talked about. He came to class the next week excited and ready to do his best.

- **Are eager learners.** Ask open-ended questions so children find the application of truths on their own, rather than telling them the answer.

Dee was thrilled how her teacher liked her idea about God using swirling gases and dust to make the stars and planets. They looked at the Bible together to see how her idea lined up with what it said. To this day, Dee can still recite the first ten verses of Genesis.

- **Thrive on routines.** Use a consistent teaching structure.

Paul had a hard time focusing for his lesson because he was worried about when he would have to say his memory verse. When the teacher decided students could come at the beginning of class each week to say their verse one on one, Paul relaxed and learned more.



- **Have short attention spans.** They can sit and listen for about twenty minutes but need to change their focus every seven to eight minutes.

Cy was just about to poke Dee’s shoulder when the teacher said, “Now, let’s get up and move to Bethlehem like Naomi and Ruth did.” Cy was eager to find out what would happen next and was glad to move around a little.

- **Can be messy when doing projects or eating snacks.** Expect messes and teach children how to clean up after themselves.

Paul could sense his teacher’s frustration when he spilled his milk. He didn’t mean to do it, and he felt very bad. When his teacher smiled and told him not to worry about it, Paul felt a lot better.

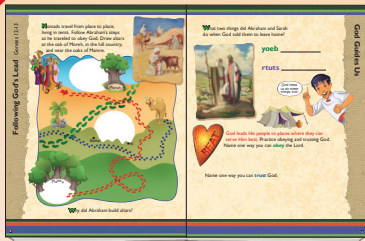
- **Can be devastated when personal failure is pointed out.**

Dee had broken two rubber bands for her harp craft, and she saw her teacher coming over. She just knew he was going to announce it to the whole class! Instead, he smiled and quietly handed her three rubber bands—one more than she needed—and said her harp was decorated beautifully.

- **Can’t always separate fact from fiction.** Tell your children often that Bible stories, the people in them, and God are all real.

When Paul was six he thought that Captain Martin really lived on the moon. When he found out that the TV show wasn’t real, he was comforted to know his parents and teachers always explained how Jesus and the stories in the Bible were real.





How to Use Disciple Guides

Each student Disciple Guide includes several features that enhance learning in the classroom and at home. Remove the staple that holds the pages together to reveal the following sheets:

One Cover / Parent Sheet

Distribute the first page to parents at the beginning of the quarter. It highlights what their children will learn and includes a letter for teachers to sign and personalize with a note. You may want to mail these to each home.

One Student Intro Sheet

Give the second page to each child in your class. It provides him or her with a fun introduction to Dee, Cy, Paul, and Chip, explains DiscipleZone.com, and showcases the Disciple Poster.

Twelve Lesson Sheets

The remaining pages contain activities that enhance each lesson (one sheet per lesson). Complete the first three “pages” of each sheet together in the classroom. Send it home for children to complete the fourth page (Disciple-Zone) before the next class period.

One Disciple Poster

The middle of each Disciple Guide holds a take-home poster for children. It presents an overview of the quarter and provides fun activities to track their progress.

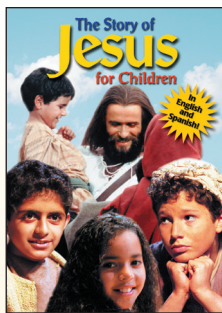
Visit DiscipleLand.com to order Disciple Guides.

Special Ways to Enhance DiscipleLand this Quarter

Kickoff Activity Bible-Times Villager

Ask a church member skilled or interested in drama to become a Bible-times villager. Dressed in Bible-times garb, this character can talk about the difficulties, challenges, and surprises people experienced during Old Testament village life. The character can stroll around the room, interact with children, answer questions, and share a Bible-times snack with the class.

Kickoff Activity JESUS Film Movie Night



Host a movie night just after the quarter begins. Show “The Story of Jesus for Children” movie as the primary activity. Have props and Disciple Guides available for children and parents to check out, and serve simple Bible-times foods. This hour-long video is rich in visual images of homes, clothing, relationships, and roles of children and family members during Jesus’ time. The movie is geared to elementary age children, so it’s very appropriate for your class.

Quarter-Long Activity God Is Wonderful!

Download this dramatic recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. Use it to help kids learn God’s attributes. It is divided into easy-to-learn sections that correspond to each lesson. Rehearse the dialogue and hand-signs together, adding the new portion that goes with the lesson you are teaching. You may want to use this narration as a presentation to parents or other classes at the end of the quarter.

Quarter-Long Activity Bible-Times Village

If you are not currently undertaking the Year-Long Activity, consider doing it for this quarter. See the next page for more information.

Year-Long Activity *Bible-Times Village*

Kids love to create. Take advantage of their creative impulses and together build a Bible-times village in your classroom. This idea can be adapted to almost any class setting. For a small area, make your village come to life as a mural wrapped around the walls. It can grow as children add new buildings, people, and animals in weekly increments. Rooms that have more space make a three-dimensional village possible. It can be a tabletop village or even a life-size tableau. Make the tabletop version from found items or created from scratch from boxes that are covered with paper and decorated to look like a small town. Use big appliance boxes for the life-size village that children can then play in and use for Bible story dramas.

Whatever Bible village works for your class, it can be a week-by-week activity that children do when they first arrive or wait to be picked up. Work on the village can also be part of a weekly lesson plan. The village is also a wonderful product of the quarter's efforts for children to show off to families during the 13th lesson review celebration.

Community Project *Community Involvement*

As the children are learning about life in a Bible-times community, involve them in the life of your own community. Find a way to participate in a community event such as a parade, street cleaning, bird counting, or special celebration. Involve whole families as much as possible.

Additional Resources **Used this Quarter**



Shepherd's Bag

Use this bag with the KeyVerse activities each lesson. The Shepherd's Bag will hold an object that children will use to help them remember their memory verses.

Hide the item in the bag and allow children to guess what is inside.

Download visual instructions for the bag at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. Choose a sturdy natural fabric such as felt, wool, or canvas. Lay a 16-inch square flat and cut as big a circle from it as possible. Hem or use fabric glue around the cut edge to prevent unraveling. Hole punch an even number of holes every three inches (about one inch from the outer edge) all the way around. Thread a leather string, thick shoelace, or other cord in and out through the holes to pull it closed. Knot the ends of the cord to prevent them from slipping out.

Review Questions

Throughout the quarter, use the questions in Lesson 13 to review the material with your children. The review questions are found on pages 86 and 87 in this Teacher Guide.

Good News for Kids!



God made you and loves you.

God is powerful. He created everything—including you.
(See Genesis 1:1; Romans 1:20.)

God is personal. He loves you and wants to be your Friend.
(See John 3:16; Romans 8:38-39.)



God knows everything about you.

Every person sins against God.
(See Daniel 9:4-5; Romans 3:23.)

Every person will pay for sin—including you.
(See Romans 5:12; 6:23a.)



Jesus died to forgive your sins.

Jesus left heaven and lived a sinless life on earth.
(See Matthew 1:21; John 10:10; 1 Peter 2:22.)

Jesus took the punishment you deserved.
(See 1 Peter 2:24; Romans 5:8.)



Jesus rose to give you new life!

You can trust Jesus and become God's child.
(See John 1:12, 14:6.)

You can trust Jesus and receive new life.
(See John 5:24; 2 Corinthians 5:17.)



Are you ready to trust Jesus as your Savior?

If you believe that Jesus died for your sins, express your faith and begin your new friendship by praying—talking with God.

- Admit that you have sinned and need forgiveness.
- Thank God for sending Jesus to die on the cross to forgive your sins.
- Tell God that you trust Jesus as your personal Savior and you choose to follow Him.
- Ask God to make you the kind of person He wants you to be.



Trust God to empower you.

Jesus lives forever inside you.
(See Galatians 2:20; John 10:28, 15:5.)

The Holy Spirit will always guide you.
(See John 16:13; Acts 1:8.)

Tips for Sharing Christ with Children

- Remember that Jesus welcomes children to come to Him (Matthew 19:14).
- Pray before sharing to prepare your own heart and sensitivity.
- Discern each child's spiritual condition: Ready to respond? Struggling to understand? Resistant?
- Open the Bible and use it to clearly share the Gospel. Focus on trusting Christ (rather than simply praying or inviting Him into their physical heart or saying the right words).
- Encourage a child to express his or her faith (trust) in Jesus through prayer.
- Use visuals, such as a bridge illustration, a wordless book, Gospel bracelet, or diagrams to help communicate difficult words and concepts to children.
- After a child responds to God's offer of forgiveness, encourage public profession of faith in Christ to friends, family, and others.
- Deal with children individually. This helps to clarify their motives and know they are trusting Christ rather than imitating their friends.
- Go through the Gospel presentation twice. Explain the Good News the first time. Then, review the Gospel and offer an opportunity to respond the second time.
- Don't manipulate a child to simply do what you want. Discern the heart attitude and present the Gospel to those you consider ready to trust Christ.

