

Spring Quarter • March • April • May 2024



# Building Blocks



Bible Studies



## TEACHER'S GUIDE

FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN  
Toddlers through Early Elementary

Sunday School  
Publishing Board





# Building Blocks

## Teacher's Guide for Younger Children

### Toddlers through Early Elementary

Volume 12—Number 3

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SPRING 2024

MARCH /  
APRIL / MAY

Jerry Young  
*Convention President*

#### WRITERS

*Toddlers to Twos*  
Jo Ann Grant  
*Preschool Bible Studies*  
Nina Murphy  
*Early Elementary Bible Studies*  
Jimmie Chaplin  
*Bible Story Applications*  
Jo Ann Grant

#### ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Derrick L. Jackson  
*Executive Director*  
Kathlyn T. Pillow  
*Associate Executive Director*

#### EDITORIAL TEAM

Debra L. Berry  
*Senior Director of Publishing Administration*  
Michelle Thierry  
*Children's Editor*  
Joe Tribble  
*Senior Editor*  
Tanae C. McKnight Murdic  
*Content Editor*  
Yalemzewd Worku  
*Senior Copy Editor*  
Ingrid Stone  
*Copy Editing Assistant*

#### CREATIVE SERVICES TEAM

Joyce Evans  
*Creative Services Director/*  
*Cover Designer*  
Royetta Davis  
*Layout Designer*  
Paul Trice  
*Bible Pictures Illustrator*



## Features and Resources

### Teacher's Guide for Toddler Lessons

Each lesson includes instructions and activities for teaching toddlers.

### Pax the Penguin

You now have a classroom helper. His name is Pax the Penguin, but you can just call him Pax. Pax is an adorable hand puppet whom you can invite into your class to review the lessons with your children. (Please note that you may have to substitute Pax for another classroom helper.) Following the Bible story each week, each lesson includes a brief script for Pax. However, please do not limit Pax to just the script. There are many creative ways you might incorporate Pax into each lesson, from beginning to end. Listed below are just a few.

Pax can do the following:

- greet parents and children as they arrive;
- wave good-bye to children as they leave;
- watch children as they participate in classroom activities;
- remind children of class rules; and,
  - sing along with the class and participate in class games.



Does Pax have to always speak? Certainly not! Pax can gesture to indicate actions such as clapping, hugging, placing his hand over his mouth to quiet the children, whispering in your ear, and nodding or shaking his head.

### Reproducible Pages

Selected lessons include craft or other types of activities to supplement your teaching. These pages are located in the back of the book.

### Bible Applications

The Bible applications are action rhymes, poems, songs, and other activities that reinforce the lessons. In addition to leading the children in these rhymes, you can use them in a number of ways. Some suggestions include making copies for the children to send home with the lesson leaflets, or photocopying (and perhaps enlarging them) to place on your classroom wall or bulletin board. During the week, parents and caregivers can review the creative expressions with their children. You could even turn them into crafts by placing them on card stock or construction paper and then having the children decorate them with stickers and/or crayons. Alternatively, at the end of each unit, you might let the children make books by making covers and stapling or gluing the pages together. You may think of other creative ways to use these applications.



## Overview of the Quarter

### Unit I: Looking at Our Faith

#### Lesson 1 • March 3—When We Stumble, He Restores Us

**Scripture:** Jude 17-25

**Key Verses:** [Jude wrote,] You, dear friends, . . . keep yourselves in God's love. (*Jude 20, 21*)

#### Scripture Review

1. Jude teaches that anyone whose words and lifestyle mimic the surrounding culture and who instigates division within the church should not be accepted as a faith model by believers.
2. Jude 20-23 encourages believers to resist the ways of false teachers. Instead, they must build up their faith.
3. Jude entrusted these believers to God's love and infinite power.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Lesson 2 • March 10—Meeting the Test

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 13:5-11

**Key Verse:** Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)

#### Scripture Review

1. Paul was confident that if the believers examined themselves, they would find Christ present within them, just as Christ was in Paul.
2. Faith in Scripture is about a lifestyle of obedience (*verse 7*), trusting God for the present and the future.
3. The purpose of both Corinthian letters had been to correct misunderstandings and conflicts within the young church during Paul's absence—so that when Paul was present, he could focus on building the church into a community of love and faith.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Lesson 3 • March 17—Love Is the Best Way

**Scripture:** 1 Peter 3:8-9, 13-17

**Key Verse:** Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. (*1 Peter 3:8*)

#### Scripture Review

1. Peter reminds believers in *verse 9* that they are Abraham's spiritual children, recipients of his blessing and calling.
2. While doing the right thing usually draws praise from others (*3:13*), sometimes the godly thing to do draws criticism or negative consequences (*3:14*). Remembering that it is God who is our absolute priority (*3:15*) helps strengthen our resolve.
3. Remaining faithful—in action as well as attitude—during suffering is a witness itself to our hope in Jesus.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Lesson 4 • March 24—Stephen: Strength and Power

**Scripture:** Acts 6:5, 7-15

**Key Verse:** Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. (*Acts 6:8*)

#### Scripture Review

1. So far, the number of disciples had increased from 120 (*1:15*) to more than 8,000 (see *2:41* and *4:4*), which included a large number of priests (*6:7*).

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2. Stephen's experience reminds us that when God's Spirit is powerful in acting through God's people, sometimes the immediate result is fierce opposition (*6:10-12*). This should not discourage us but drive us to Christ even more solidly.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Lesson 5 • March 31 (Easter)—Filled with Amazement

**Scripture:** Mark 16:1-8

**Key Verse:** "Don't be alarmed," [the young man in white] said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him." (*Mark 16:6*)

#### Scripture Review

1. Normally, the anointing would have taken place before the burial—but in this case, the Sabbath began before Jesus' disciples could care for His body or even place it in His family tomb.
2. Mark's story of the Resurrection ends on a disappointing note: the women did not live out their faith but, rather, let fear control their actions (*16:8*). Mark's ending forces the reader to ask how they would respond in fear or faith.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Unit II: How Much Faith Do You Have?

#### Lesson 6 • April 7—Good Friends Lead to the Master

**Scripture:** Luke 5:17-26

**Key Verse:** When Jesus saw [the friends'] faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven." (*Luke 5:20*)

#### Scripture Review

1. Having faith is not just an individual attribute but a corporate action. It was the friends' faith that moved Jesus to help the paralytic man.
2. The friends of the man with paralysis demonstrated the highest ideal of friendship in the first century. Love is not passive but, instead, actively overcomes every obstacle to help a friend.
3. Actions like forgiving sins (*5:20-21*) clearly communicated that faith and forgiveness belong to Jesus just as they do to His Father.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Lesson 7 • April 14—Healed from a Distance

**Scripture:** Luke 7:1-10

**Key Verse:** [Jesus] said [to the crowd], "I tell you, I have not found such great faith [as the centurion] even in Israel." (*Luke 7:9*)

#### Scripture Review

1. The centurion honored Jesus by not demanding that Jesus cross the Jew-Gentile boundaries when the centurion had the right to make that demand (*7:3-4, 6*).
2. The story depicts the essential link between action and faith (*7:4-8*).
3. While Jesus certainly encountered faith within Israel, the centurion's faith was unique in its humility and recognition that Jesus' authority comes directly from God and thus is absolute.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Lesson 8 • April 21—He Loves Us Always

**Scripture:** Luke 7:36-39, 44-50

**Key Verse:** Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." (*Luke 7:50*)



## Overview of the Quarter

### Scripture Review

1. There is a distinction between “oil” and “ointment” in 7:46. Olive oil was typically used to cleanse and refresh traveling guests. But the woman brought a costlier and more valuable gift of ointment, likely scented with spices as an aromatic perfume.
2. Jesus ignored social solecism in favor of responding to (accepting) the woman’s sincere gratitude and love (7:47-48).
3. Simon’s lack of hospitality (a cause for shame) suggests some insincerity or ulterior motive in his invitation.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Lesson 9 • April 28 —A Mother’s Faith

**Scripture:** Matthew 15:21-28

**Key Verse:** Jesus said to [the woman], “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment. (*Matthew 15:28*)

### Scripture Review

1. Throughout the Old Testament, the Israelites were commanded to keep a distance from the Canaanites and other foreign peoples because they worshipped false gods (see Leviticus 18:3).
2. That the woman named Jesus as the “Son of David” (15:22) is significant theologically, for Matthew believed that the Son of David is the prophesied Messiah.
3. This was no accidental encounter: though Jesus’ ministry was to Israel, for those who would follow in His steps, He calls us to step out of our comfort zone, place our faith in the limitless God, and reach out to those in the margins.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Unit III: Learning to Stand in Faith

### Lesson 10 • May 5—Forgiveness Is a Gift

**Scripture:** Romans 3:21-29

**Key Verses:** There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. (*Romans 3:22b-24*)

### Scripture Review

1. Jews and Gentiles are equally guilty of sin before God.
2. The “righteousness of God” (3:21) is Paul’s wordplay on both God’s being fully in line with all standards of rightness and on God’s ability to erase a person’s record of sin, to count a person “right” with God, which God does through Jesus’ faith(fullness) in making a sacrifice of Himself on the Cross.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Lesson 11 • May 12—Children of Hope

**Scripture:** Romans 4:13, 16-21

**Key Verse:** Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations. (*Romans 4:18a*)

### Scripture Review

1. The promise Paul refers to here is the blessing of Genesis 12:1-3, where God promised to make Abraham into a great nation, to bless him, and eventually to bless the entire world through him.
2. Abraham’s faith was grounded on who God is, not on merit or his resources.
3. Revisiting an earlier argument (see Romans 3:20), Paul reminded the church that the Mosaic Law was instituted to identify sin, not to resolve the spiritual exile and judgment that sin brings (see 4:15).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Lesson 12 • May 19—Peace in Believing

**Scripture:** Romans 5:1-11

**Key Verse:** Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Romans 5:1*)

### Scripture Review

1. The faith that Paul talks about here (5:1) is not just a conceptual acknowledgment but, rather, both a confident trust in our limitless God as well as a recognition that we are ourselves so very limited. It is a trust that submits to God as Creator, Lord, and Redeemer.
2. *Peace*, here, is more than the inner peace of Philippians 4:7. It also refers to relational peace with God. We are no longer God’s enemies but God’s children.
3. Paul adds another dimension in that God is never absent in our waiting. While we wait for the outward manifestation of our hope, God works internally on the heart and character, transforming us into His image (5:3-5; see also 2 Corinthians 3:18).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Lesson 13 • May 26—The Way

**Scripture:** Romans 10:5-13

**Key Verse:** “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (*Romans 10:13*)

### Scripture Review

1. Returning to his earlier argument (see Romans 2-3), Paul reiterates that the Jews had fallen into the trap of believing that their obedience to the Mosaic Law resolved their sins and brought them peace with God (see 10:1-4).
2. Following the Law brings righteousness, for the Law is God’s standard. But our actions are not up to God’s standard.
3. Paul’s quotation of Deuteronomy 30:14 (10:6-8) is meant to remind believers that Christ has already completed His ministry of our reconciliation with the Father (from Incarnation to Resurrection), and all that is left to do is trust Him for a process He has already completed.



## Teaching Helps

### TEACHER'S LESSON PLANS

Helping young children learn how God's Word relates to everyday experiences is an important task for teachers.

The weekly lesson plan includes the Background Scripture, Lesson Scripture, and Key Verse. The Faith Block is the main idea of the Bible Lesson. The Lesson Objective is the desired outcome for the students as a result of hearing God's Word. The list of Materials Needed helps identify items to gather for lesson activities. (**Note:** You will need to have a small table [and/or an area rug] in your room that can accommodate all the children in your class *every day*—applicable to any of the age levels. Also, you may want to keep an offering container if you plan to collect offerings each Sunday [if applicable/feasible].)

The Picture Lesson Cards (for toddlers to twos) are designed for use for either an individual child or with a group of toddlers in the classroom. The cards are sized so that young students can begin to learn how to handle biblical materials. At the end of each teaching session, the cards are to be sent home for parents to reread the Bible lessons to their children. This will help to reinforce the hearing of God's Word.

The Preschool and Early Elementary student books consist of thirteen lesson leaflets. Each leaflet contains four pages: the Bible picture (page 1); the Bible Story and Letter to the Parents (page 2); and Activities (pages 3-4). In the backs of the student books are two pages containing extra activities to use as you wish.

The schedules provided below are suggested time periods for each section. Adapt the schedule to meet your particular class needs.

### Toddlers to Twos

#### Beginning Block (10-15 minutes)

*(\*Consists of the Welcome time and the Opening Worship and Activity)*

**Purpose:** To greet parents; to help the children feel comfortable and secure; and to involve the children in appropriate activities that introduce the lesson. Plan to do the following prior to class: (1) arrive early to prepare the room; label and provide space for each child's belongings. Do the following as/when the children are arriving and have arrived to class (**Welcome** time): (1) Smile as you greet each child and parent by name. (2) Engage any children who arrive early—with blocks, books, and other toddler toys—in order to maintain their attention. (3) Meet any immediate physical need the children may have (feeding, restroom, and so forth). (4) Gather the children and help them settle down when you are ready to begin class. Things to do during and after the **Opening Worship and Activity** period: (1) Let the children know that prayer time is when we talk to God. Tell them to bow their heads and close their eyes, and then lead them in prayer. (2) Engage the class in the activity. (3) When the activity is over, prepare the class for the Bible story.

#### Bible Story Block (5-10 minutes)

*(\*Consists of the Bible Story)*

**Purpose:** To guide the children in listening/responding to the Bible lesson and main idea, using the Picture Lesson Card. You can do the following: (1) show the picture on the Picture Lesson Card; (2) encourage the children to touch and talk about the picture; (3) after showing the children the card and offering any related commentary, use a conversational voice to enthusiastically tell the Bible lesson—then review it with them afterward; and (4) applaud their participation with a hug of love.

#### Stacks of Fun (10-20 minutes)

*(\*Consists of Activity time and the Words from Pax the Penguin segment)*

**Purpose:** To help the children become familiar with Bible truths while participating in one or more learning activities (including the option of using **Pax the Penguin**). For the activity, you may use the one provided in the lesson or opt to use the Bible Story Application (for that particular lesson) provided in the back of the book (unless that is the activity offered in the lesson). Keep the following in mind regarding the **Words from Pax the Penguin** segment: (1) Refer to the *Early Elementary* teacher lesson 1, pages 35-36, for suggestions on how to present Pax. (2) Create a distraction so that you or your assistant can discreetly bring out Pax. (3) After the time with Pax, let Pax wave good-bye and/or hug the children.

The following **options** may be helpful to you: (1) Use the **Bible Story Applications**, located in the back of the book, to teach your children rhymes and songs related to the lesson. (**Note:** Some rhymes may include movements that are more applicable for older twos.) (2) Use the preschool reproducible pages, located in the back of the book; they are additional resources. (Although they are labeled "preschool," some activities may be appropriate for your age group—so feel free to use these at your discretion.)

### **Closing Block** (5-10 minutes)

**Purpose:** To briefly review the main focus of the lesson and prepare the children to return to their parents.

Keep these guidelines in mind for closing out the session: (1) Retell the Bible story, using the Picture Lesson Card. (2) Have the children repeat the Faith Block after you. (3) Afterward, say the prayer on the Picture Lesson Card. (4) Distribute the Picture Lesson Cards to parents/guardians when they arrive to pick up their children.

## **Preschool and Early Elementary**

### **Beginning Block** (10-15 minutes)

*(\*Consists of the Welcome time and the Opening Worship and Activity)*

**Purpose:** To welcome the children and help them feel glad to be in Sunday school; to provide worship opportunities (song, prayer, and offering) and encourage their participation in any activity that helps to capture their interest and lead into the Bible lesson. Plan to do the following prior to class: (1) arrive early to prepare the room; label and provide space for each child's belongings. Do the following as/when the children are arriving and have arrived to class (**Welcome** time): (1) Greet the children and parents with a warm and inviting smile. (2) Thank the parents for bringing their children to class and tell the children how glad you are to see them. (3) Meet any immediate physical need the children may have (feeding, restroom, and so forth). (4) Engage early arrivers with activities (such as puzzles, coloring pages, or books) until you are ready to begin class. Things to do during and after the **Opening Worship and Activity** period: (1) After the students are seated, open the session with prayer. (Let the children know that prayer time is when we talk to God. Tell them to bow their heads and close their eyes.) (2) Then collect the children's offerings. (3) Engage the class in the activity. (4) When the activity is over, prepare the class for the Bible story.

### **Bible Story Block** (5-10 minutes)

*(\*Consists of the Bible Story, the Bible Story Application, and the Words from Pax the Penguin segment)*

**Purpose:** To guide the children in listening/responding to the Bible story and use supplemental exercises to reinforce the lesson. For the **Bible Story** segment, to capture the children's attention, you can do the following: (1) show the Bible picture as you tell the story; (2) emphasize action words and be expressive as you recite the characters' dialogue; (3) know the lesson well enough so that you can establish eye contact with each child during the story; (4) help the children get ready to listen (They listen best when they can keep their muscles moving.); (5) allow the children to be active listeners by encouraging them to imitate story actions (The children will be much more cooperative than if directed to sit still.); (6) ask open-ended questions about the Bible picture on the student's leaflet; (7) lead them to perform any special gestures/actions during the Bible-story reading as indicated in the lesson plan; (8) review the Bible story after reading it. The **Bible Story Applications**, which include sing-alongs, action rhymes, read-alouds, and so forth, help children learn Bible stories and concepts. They help the children build language skills, gain control over motor skills, and get rid of the wiggles! Since children learn by repetition, you will need to speak slowly, clearly, and enthusiastically as you frequently repeat the stories and action songs. Keep the following in mind regarding the **Words from Pax the Penguin** segment: (1) Refer to the *Early Elementary* teacher lesson 1, pages 35-36, for suggestions on how to present Pax. (2) Create a distraction so that you or your assistant can discreetly bring out Pax. (3) After the time with Pax, let Pax wave good-bye and/or hug the children. (\*For each **Preschool** lesson, refer to/use the Pax script in the corresponding *Early Elementary* lesson.)

### **Stacks of Fun** (10-20 minutes)

*(\*Consists of the Lesson Activities [including any Reproducibles])*

**Purpose:** To allow the children to participate in a variety of fun and memorable learning experiences that enhance their understanding of the Bible lesson. The **Activity pages** enrich the Bible learning for each lesson. Have materials ready and give positive directions, one at a time. Show the children what to do. Assist as needed. Encourage and praise the children for their efforts. Selected lessons include **Reproducible pages** (craft activities) to supplement your teaching.

### **Closing Block** (5-10 minutes)





**Purpose:** To briefly review the main focus of the lesson (including reciting the Key Verse(s) and repeating the Faith Block), complete unfinished activities, close the session with a prayer (there is one provided for Early Elementary students), and prepare the children to return to their parents.

As you wait for parents or caregivers to come for your students, here are some suggestions for things to do to keep the children occupied while they wait: (1) Have the children review their lesson leaflets, completing any unfinished activities. Make sure each child's name is written somewhere on his/her leaflet. (2) Allow the children to help clean up the classroom before leaving class. (3) Allow for quiet play time if you have a room with an activity area. (4) Offer crayons and coloring sheets or paper for the children to draw on or allow them to work on puzzles together.

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### Icons

In addition to section headings, there are icons to assist you in identifying special instructions or activities that may appear in a lesson. The icons found on the next page will help you locate these special items easily.

-  **Special Preparation:** In addition to the standard study preparation, this icon indicates that the lesson requires additional preparation.
-  **Optional Activity:** This activity is one that you can include if you desire to do so, or if time permits.
-  **Reproducible Activity:** An activity page which appears in the back of this book that requires making photocopies.
-  **Looking Ahead:** Provides special instructions and plans for future lessons.

## EVALUATE THE SESSION

Check on the effectiveness of your teaching: Did you use your time wisely? Were the students attentive? What could have been done differently? Plan ahead prayerfully for next Sunday. Study the lesson and read the Background Scripture(s).

## PREPARING TO TEACH

### Teaching Tips

You will want to skim each lesson at the beginning of the quarter to list materials you will need and note ideas you want to try. Each week, prayerfully plan and prepare the lesson. Read and study the Background Scriptures. Become familiar with each step of the lesson plan. Gather the materials needed and have them easily accessible. Provide an offering container, name tags, and space for the children's personal belongings. Make sure the room is safe for the children. Ask God for the presence of His Holy Spirit and expect Him to help you think of and plan unique and creative ways to teach.

Young children learn spiritually through examples, attitudes, and actions. What they learn must be taught simply in view of their level of understanding. They can learn spiritually in several ways, including the following: (1) remember brief Bible stories, verses, and songs; (2) associate church with God, Jesus, and the Bible; (3) feel that people at church love them; (4) repeat what they hear about God, Jesus, the Bible, and church; (5) thank God for things they see, hear, taste, touch, and smell; (6) accept simply stated Bible truths; (7) begin to recognize special church helpers; and, (8) pray short, simple prayers.

### The ABCs of Salvation

The *ABCs of Salvation* are listed below to help you discuss questions or concerns your students may have about the free gift of salvation that Jesus offers to everyone: **A. Say**, "Admit you have sinned (see Psalm 32:5), or done wrong." Go through just a few of the Ten Commandments—stealing or lying and so forth. Tell how our sins separate us from God (see Isaiah 59:2 and Romans 3:23); **B. Say**, "Believe Jesus is God's Son. He took the punishment for our sins by dying on the cross (see Romans 5:8). We must believe that Jesus is God's Son and that God raised Him from the dead." **C. Say**, "Call on God to forgive you (see Acts 2:21). When we are sorry for our sins and want to stop doing wrong, we can ask God to forgive us (see Acts 16:31)."

### BASIC CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

If your church does not have some of these recommended materials, use this list to prioritize the items you need. Then, as resources permit, add to the materials in your Sunday school room.

- **Art**—large crayons, watercolor markers, pencils, blunt-tipped scissors, tape, glue/paste, construction paper, stapler, paper punch, yarn, chalk, paper cups/plates, paper bags, and paper towels.
- **Blocks/puzzles**—cardboard blocks, wooden blocks, plastic blocks, five-to-ten-piece puzzles, games, and other manipulative toys.
- **Books**—Bible storybooks, children's books, magazines, catalogs, and newspapers.
- **Music**—CD/DVD player, CDs of worship/praise and instrumental music, and rhythm instruments (bells, shakers, rhythm sticks, and so forth).



# When We Stumble, He Restores Us

March 3, 2024—Lesson 1

**Background Scripture:** Jude • **Lesson Scripture:** Jude 17-25

**Key Verses:** [Jude wrote,] **You, dear friends, . . . keep yourselves in God’s love.** (*Jude 20, 21*)

**Faith Block:** God is always with me!

**Lesson Objective:** The children will discover that God is with them, and they can trust God during good and bad times.

**Materials Needed:** *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), pencils, crayons, markers, stickers, one sixteen-inch inflated balloon for every three children, a multimedia device, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

\* \* \* \* \*

## A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂ If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see Pax placed on or taken off the puppeteer’s hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children’s view.

### Welcome

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### Opening Worship and Activity

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Gather the students and have them stand in groups of two or three. Provide space between each group. Tell them that you will toss each group an inflated balloon. They must use their hands to keep the balloon in the air. The balloon must not fall to the floor. After several minutes of keeping the balloons in the air, tell the students that when we trust God, God keeps us from falling away from Him. As a class, pray and thank God for being with us.

## B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** God wants us to follow Him and believe His promises. God does not want us to stumble or fall away from Him. Today’s Bible story teaches us that God is with us.

### The Bible Story

#### When We Stumble, He Restores Us

Jude reminded God’s children that some people would make

fun of their faith. These people are selfish. They do not love and follow God. They cause confusion and make God’s children not get along with each other.

Jude told God’s children to have *faith* (trust God). They must show kindness to those who were unsure of what they believed. God would keep His children from falling and following what is not good or right. However, if they stumbled, God would restore them (or help them to stand) in His presence.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: What does it mean when we have faith in God? (*We trust or believe God.*) Will God help us if we make mistakes or do what is not good? (*Yes.*)

### Bible Story Application

Refer to the lesson 1 Bible Story Application (*page 61*) and teach the children the action rhyme “When We Stumble.”

### ☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you will be presenting Pax (or some other hand puppet) to the children for the first time, follow the suggestions on how to present Pax (*pages 35-36 of this teacher book*), and use Pax’s script (*indicated with a double asterisk (\*\*)*) in this lesson. Keep in mind that Pax will become a real character to the children; therefore, they may respond to him in a variety of ways or ask him any number of questions. So, relax and go with the flow of their inquiries and curiosity, and respond with patience and love. As you respond to the children, remain in character as Pax (or other hand puppet), and always thank the children for their questions. If you have been using Pax the Penguin (or some other character) and your students are familiar with him, then you can skip

the introduction and begin with the script indicated with a single asterisk (\*).

**\*\*Say:** Listen carefully, class—I think I hear someone coming. *(Cup your hands around your ears. Show the children how to cup both hands around their ears, as if listening. If you previously asked someone to act as Pax, invite that person to come to the children by calling Pax’s name.)*

**Say:** Pax, is that you I hear? *(If you do not have an assistant, go and get Pax yourself.)*

**Say:** Children, stay right where you are. I will go and find Pax. *(Go to a discreet area out of the children’s sight and place Pax [puppet] on your hand; then, return to the children.)*

**Say:** Here’s Pax, everyone! Say hello to Pax. Do you know what Pax is? Is he a dog? Is he a cat? Is he an elephant? Nooo . . . Pax is a penguin!

**Say:** Now, Pax wants to talk to us about today’s lesson. Be really quiet and listen carefully.

*(If your students are familiar with Pax, then use the script below; get more information on page 7 of this teacher book.)*

**\*Pax:** Hello, boys and girls. Saturday, I told my dad that I would make a card for my grandmother, who was not feeling well. When I gave the card to my grandmother, she was so happy. I know I did the right thing.

**Teacher:** Yes, Pax, it was the right thing to do. Our Bible story for today is about trusting God to help us do what is right. Do you think God is happy when we do what is right, boys and girls? *(Pause for the children to respond.)*

**Pax:** God is happy when we do what is right. But, if we stumble or do not do what is right, God still loves us. God is with us and will keep us from falling away from Him. Do you know that God is with you? *(Allow the children to*

*respond.)* I know I want to do what is good, and you can, too. Oh, I’ve gotta go. See you next week!

## STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### Connected to God’s Love

Relay that we are connected to God’s love because God is always with us. Instruct the children to color the picture. Discuss how we know God is with us because He loves us.

### Making a Good Choice

Have the children work on this activity as a group. Instruct them to look at each picture and explain what is happening. Have them to circle the pictures of children making good choices, and to draw an X through pictures of children not making good choices. As they work, remind them to trust God to help them make good choices.

**All pictures should be circled except for the one of the boys fighting over the teddy bear.**

## D CLOSING BLOCK

**D Say:** God is always with you to help you do what is good. Do you believe that God is always with you and wants you to do what is good? *(Pause for responses.)* This week, pray and ask God to help you show love and kindness. God will keep you from falling away from Him.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

**Pray:** Dear God, thank You for being with us and helping us to do what is good. We will trust You. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

## NOTES

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## Meeting the Test

March 10, 2024—Lesson 2

**Background Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 13:1-11 • **Lesson Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 13:5-11**Key Verse:** Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. (2 Corinthians 13:11)**Faith Block:** I will live for Jesus!**Lesson Objective:** The children will discover that they can live for God because He is with them.**Materials Needed:** *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), white card stock, 5x7-inch card stock for “Jesus Loves You” cards, pencils, crayons, markers, heart-shaped stickers, glitter glue, scissors, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

\* \* \* \* \*

**A BEGINNING BLOCK**

✂ If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see Pax placed on or taken off the puppeteer’s hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children’s view.

✂ Prior to class, (1) print the reproducible template for each child on card stock; (2) prepare “Jesus Loves You” cards by cutting card stock in half to a 5x7-inch size (one per child). Write on one side, “Jesus Loves You.”

**Welcome**

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Opening Worship and Activity**

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** We want to do kind things for others when we have Jesus’ love in our hearts. Let us make “Jesus Loves You” cards. As you make your card, think about the person to whom you will give it.

Give each student art supplies (including crayons, markers, coloring pencils, glitter glue, heart-shaped stickers, and anything else) and a card labeled “Jesus Loves You” on which to work.

Help each child write his or her name on the back of the card. Invite the children to decorate their cards, using all the art supplies at their disposal.

**B BIBLE STORY BLOCK**

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** In today’s Bible lesson, Paul reminded the believers that God was with them. Ask the children, “Do you know that God is with you always because He lives in your heart?” (*Pause for responses.*)

Tell the children that when they choose to live for God, His Spirit lives in their hearts and is always with them. Tell them that today’s Bible story reminds us to depend on God to do what is right because He is with us. Tell them to listen carefully to the Bible story to learn how they can pass the test by doing what is right.

**The Bible Story****Meeting the Test**

Paul encouraged the believers in Corinth to test themselves. They were to test themselves to see if Jesus’ presence and power were in their lives. They must figure out if their faith (belief and trust in God) was real. Paul had passed the test. Paul was approved by God.

Paul prayed that the believers would not do anything wrong. He told the believers to grow into mature and strong believers. Paul told the believers to rejoice (be joyful), be friends, and help one another. They should think alike and live in peace. And the God of love and peace would be with them.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: Who is always with you because you choose to live for God? (*Jesus.*) Do you believe that God can help you do what is right because He is with you? (*Yes.*)

**Bible Story Application**

Refer to the lesson 2 Bible Story Application (*page 61*) and teach the children the finger-play poem “A Test of Faith.”

### ☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on presentation. The script for Pax appears below.

**Pax:** Hello, boys and girls. When a friend asked me to take an extra apple at lunch, I thought about it but said, "No." I knew it was not right to take what was not mine. If I had taken the extra apple, one of my friends would not have had one. I know God helped me to do what was right.

**Teacher:** Yes, Pax, you did what was right. You passed the test because you did what was good instead of doing what was wrong and taking the apple. Our Bible story for today is about God helping us to do what is good. Do you think God sees you and helps you do what is good, boys and girls? *(Pause for the children to respond.)*

**Pax:** God wants us to do what is good. I know I passed the test because I did well. We can each do what is good because God is with us. Do you think God helps us to do what is good and show His love by what we do? *(Allow the children to respond.)* I felt really good when I did not take the apple. We can each do what is good and feel good because God is with us. God helps us to do what is right. Oh, I've gotta go. See you next week!

### STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

#### Who Is Jesus?

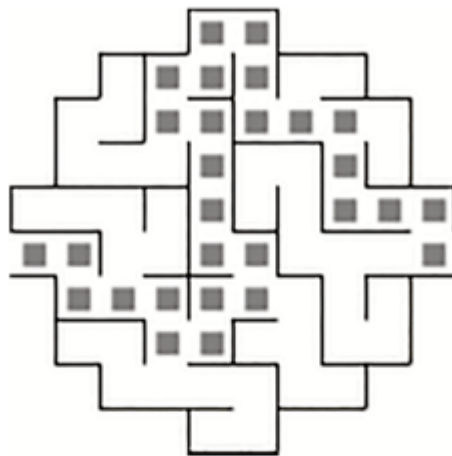
**Say:** God is happy when we learn more about Jesus and spend time with Him.

Instruct the children to draw a line from the "Jesus Christ" image to the hearts containing phrases that describe Jesus. Talk about why all the hearts tell us who Jesus is.

#### What Can I Do with Jesus?

Have the children complete the maze by drawing a line from "With Jesus" to "Live for Jesus and Love Others." As

the children complete the maze, review the Bible lesson with them. Ask the students to share some kind things that they can do to show that they live for Jesus.



#### 📄 Make a "God Is with Me" Bookmark

Refer to the reproducible activity *(page 68)* and, using white card stock, make a copy of the bookmark for each child in your class. Pass out the templates and art supplies, and invite the children to decorate their bookmarks with crayons, glitter glue, and heart-shaped stickers. Then, help them cut out their bookmark and write their names on the back of their bookmarks.

### D CLOSING BLOCK

**Say:** When we learn more about God, we can do what is good. We are not alone because God is with us. His Spirit lives in our hearts to help us do what is good. Do you want to do what is good to help others? *(Pause for responses.)* When you leave today, talk to your parents about why you can do what is good and who is with you.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

**Pray:** Dear God, thank You for being with us so that we do what is good. Please help us to learn more about You and do what is right. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher's guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

## Stephen: Strength and Power

March 24, 2024—Lesson 4

**Background Scripture:** Acts 6 • **Lesson Scripture:** Acts: 6:5, 7-15

**Key Verse:** Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. (*Acts 6:8*)

**Faith Block:** I will obey God!

**Lesson Objective:** The children will discover that Stephen obeyed God when it was difficult.

**Materials Needed:** *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), white card stock, an angel coloring page template, a large box labeled “Food Drive,” pencils, crayons, markers, stickers, glitter glue, safety scissors, other art supplies, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

\* \* \* \* \*

### A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂ If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see Pax placed on or taken off the puppeteer’s hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children’s view.

✂ Prior to class, (1) print the reproducible template for each child; (2) obtain your Sunday school leadership’s permission to implement the service project noted in the opening activity; (3) make an angel flyer by printing an angel coloring page for each child; write on the printed copies the following: “Food Drive / Help us to help others by giving dry and canned foods.”

### Welcome

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### Opening Worship and Activity

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** Is it fair for some children to have lots of food and others to have no food? (*Pause for responses.*) Of course, it is not fair. We may be young, but we can do what is right and fair and help others in need. Our class will help those who are hungry by giving dry and canned foods to our local shelter or food pantry. Let us decorate our angel flyers and then give the flyers to grownups who can help us.

Give each student a printed copy of the angel flyer labeled “Food Drive / Help us to help others by giving dry and

canned foods.” Allow them to color the angel. Make accessible in the classroom a large box labeled “Food Drive” in which the children may place the goods. Then, donate the food collected to a local shelter or food pantry.

### B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** Today’s lesson teaches us about Stephen, who was chosen to help people who needed food. He was a leader who obeyed God despite being mistreated by some people.

### The Bible Story

#### Stephen: Strength and Power

Stephen was a man of faith, strength, and power. He was one of seven men chosen to serve food to people in need in the early church. Stephen obeyed Jesus even when it was not easy. God’s Spirit gave Stephen power to perform great wonders. God’s Word spread and more people believed in Jesus.

People who did not believe spoke falsely against Stephen. They said that Stephen spoke badly about Moses and the Law. But God’s Spirit gave Stephen wise words to speak. When the people saw Stephen, they saw the face of an angel.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: What was Stephen chosen to do for the people? (*Plan how to give food to the people in need in the early church.*) What did the people falsely say about Stephen? (*That he spoke against the Law of Moses.*) What did the religious leaders see when they looked at Stephen? (*They saw the face of an angel.*)

### Bible Story Application

Refer to the lesson 4 Bible Story Application (*page 61*) and teach the children the read-aloud story “Faithful Stephen.”

### ☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on presentation. The script for Pax appears below.

**Pax:** Hello, boys and girls. At school, I wanted to help Ms. Thompson, my teacher, clean up after our class had lunch. When I raised my hand to let her know that I would help, my friends laughed and said I only wanted to be the teacher's pet. I was sad but still helped her, and so did two other students. While I was helping, Ms. Thompson said, "Thank you, Pax; you chose to do what is good and help. Do not let anyone stop you from doing what God wants you to do."

**Teacher:** Pax, you did what was good even when your friends were not nice. Our Bible story for today is about Stephen, a leader who obeyed God. When Stephen served, taught, preached, and did wonders, some people mistreated him. But Stephen still did what was right. Boys and girls, have you ever been mistreated for doing something good? *(Allow the children to respond and discuss what happened.)*

**Pax:** It is not fair to be mistreated for doing good. But God gives us strength and power to do what is right. Even if our friends are not nice, we should still do what is right and obey God. I want to obey God and do what is good, and you can, too. Oh, I've gotta go. See you next week!

### C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

### I Will Obey God

**Say:** We can obey God daily, even when others mistreat us. God will give us strength.

Instruct the children to trace the letters of the words "I" and "obey." Then, read the phrase aloud. Have the children stand and repeat the phrase. Discuss how the students can obey God each day.

### Stephen: A Faithful Servant

Instruct the children to color the Bible story picture of Stephen. As they color, review the Bible story with them.

### 📄 Make an "I Will Obey God" Door Hanger

Refer to the reproducible activity (*page 69*) and, using white card stock, make a copy of the door hanger for each child in your class. Pass out the templates and invite the children to decorate their door hangers with crayons, markers, and stickers. Have them cut out the door hanger and then help each child write his or her name on the back of the door hanger.

### D CLOSING BLOCK

**Say:** God will give us strength when we choose to do what is good. Some people may be unfair, but God is always with us. Do you believe that God will be with you when you choose to do what is right? *(Pause for responses.)* Remember to give your family or neighbors the angel flyers to help with the food drive when you leave today. We can do good and obey God as a class.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

**Pray:** Dear God, thank You for giving us the strength to do what is good. Please help us always to obey You and do what is good. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher's guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

## NOTES

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## Good Friends Lead to the Master

April 7, 2024—Lesson 6

**Background Scripture:** Luke 5:17-26 • **Lesson Scripture:** Luke 5:17-26

**Key Verse:** When Jesus saw [the friends'] faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven." (Luke 5:20)

**Faith Block:** I will be a good friend!

**Lesson Objective:** The children will discover that a paralyzed man was healed when his friends brought him to Jesus.

**Materials Needed:** *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), pictures of the miracles of Jesus, 22x28-inch white poster board, glue sticks, pencils, other art supplies, a multimedia device, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

\* \* \* \* \*

### A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂ If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see Pax placed on or taken off the puppeteer's hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children's view.

✂ Prior to class, (1) write the title "Miracles of Jesus" at the top of a poster board; (2) print several pictures of Jesus' miracles, including His healing the paralyzed man.

### Welcome

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

### Opening Worship and Activity

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** Let us hear about the miracles of Jesus. A *miracle* is a great thing that seems impossible but is done by the power of God. Jesus had the power to do miracles. He fed thousands of people, turned water into wine at a wedding, calmed raging storms, helped His disciples catch nets of fish, healed blind people, and made the paralyzed man walk. These are just a few miracles that Jesus performed.

Give each child a picture of one of the miracles of Jesus. Talk about each picture, then allow each child to glue a picture of a miracle onto the poster board.

**Say:** Let us watch a video clip of the miracle that Jesus did in today's Bible story. The video clip title is "Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man (Luke 5:17-26)." A paralyzed man is a man who is unable to walk. Let us watch and see what Jesus does to help the paralyzed man.

Play the video clip found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cmppSIQUX4>.

### B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

**Ask:** Do you have good friends that would help you? (*Pause for responses.*) You can be a good friend, too, and help someone who needs help. Today's Bible story teaches us that a paralyzed man had friends who took him to Jesus because Jesus was healing. If you have good friends, they should also know that Jesus helps everyone.

### The Bible Story

#### Good Friends Lead to the Master

Jesus was in a house teaching and healing the sick. Several men brought their friend (a man who could not walk) on a mat to see Jesus. But, the house was crowded. So, they made an opening in the roof. They lowered the man from the roof right before Jesus. Jesus forgave the man's *sins* (wrong choices) when He saw the faith of the man's friends. But, the religious leaders believed that only God could forgive sins.

Jesus said, "The Son of Man has *authority* (rule) on earth to forgive sins." Jesus, the Master, healed the man. The man stood up, walked, and praised God! Everyone was surprised.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: What did the paralyzed man's friends do for him? (*They took him on his mat to Jesus and lowered him right in front of Jesus.*) Who healed the paralyzed man? (*Jesus.*) What did the man do after he was healed? (*He thanked God.*)

### Bible Story Application

Refer to the lesson 6 Bible Story Application (*page 62*) and teach the children the action rhyme "Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man."

### ☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on presentation. The script for Pax appears below.

**Pax:** Hello, boys and girls. After attending the first day of Vacation Bible School, I was excited to tell my friends what I learned about Jesus calming a storm. Later, when I saw my friends on the playground, I told them about Jesus. One of my friends told me that he had never heard about Jesus. I told him that Jesus loves him. Then I invited him to come to Vacation Bible school with me. I wanted him to know Jesus, too.

**Teacher:** Pax, you are a good friend because you told your friend about Jesus. Our Bible story for today reminds us that our good friends can lead us to Jesus. And Jesus can heal people who are sick. Do you want to tell your friends about Jesus, boys and girls? *(Allow the children to respond.)*

**Pax:** When my friend came to Vacation Bible School, he learned about Jesus and how much He loves him. I am so happy that he knows who Jesus is now. Because I love Jesus and want to be a good friend, I want to tell my friends about Jesus. Do you love Jesus and want to tell others about Him? *(Pause for responses.)* I know I want to be a good friend, and you can, too. Practice telling the friend sitting beside you that Jesus loves him or her. *(Pause for responses and action.)* Great job, boys and girls. Well, I've gotta go. See you next week!

### C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

### A Good Friend!

**Ask:** Do you think you are a good friend? *(Pause for responses.)* We will complete this activity together.

Point to each picture and have the children explain what is happening. Instruct the children to circle the pictures that show what a good friend does. Discuss why God is happy when we are good friends and share His love.

**All the pictures show children being good friends except the "Fight each other" scene.**

### Jesus Healed Him

Have the children color the Bible story picture. As they color, review the Bible lesson with them.

### D CLOSING BLOCK

**Say:** The good friends of the paralyzed man took him to the Master—Jesus. They believed that Jesus could help their friend. They lowered him on his mat from the roof to Jesus. The man was healed because Jesus saw their faith. What do you do that shows that you are a good friend? *(Pause for responses.)* When you leave today, think about how to be a good friend and share your love for Jesus.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

**Pray:** Dear God, thank You for Jesus Christ, who helps us. Help us to be good friends to others and share our love for You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher's guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

## NOTES



## Healed from a Distance

April 14, 2024—Lesson 7

**Background Scripture:** Luke 7:1-10 • **Lesson Scripture:** Luke 7:1-10

**Key Verse:** [Jesus] said [to the crowd], “I tell you, I have not found such great faith [as the centurion] even in Israel.” (Luke 7:9)

**Faith Block:** I trust God!

**Lesson Objective:** The children will discover that they can always trust God.

**Materials Needed:** *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), a 4x4-inch cross template labeled “I Trust God,” ten-inch lengths of yarn, a hole puncher, crayons, markers, stickers, glitter glue, safety scissors, a multimedia device, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

\* \* \* \* \*

### A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂ If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see Pax placed on or taken off the puppeteer’s hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children’s view.

✂ Prior to class, (1) print out (on card stock) one cross template for each child in your class. Label the cross “I Trust God”; (2) print out the reproducible template (one per child).

### Welcome

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### Opening Worship and Activity

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** Today, we will hear that we can always trust God. Who is it that you trust or believe will always be there to help you? (*Pause for responses.*)

**“I Trust God” Cross:** Give the children a card stock cross labeled “I Trust God.” Help them to write their name on the back of their cross and allow them to decorate and color their crosses. Relay that God loves us and created us—and that we can trust our heavenly Father. Ask the children to keep the cross where they can see it to remember they can always trust God.

**I Trust in Him:** Play the song “I Trust in Him” as the children decorate and color their crosses. Remind them that God always loves them. You can find the soundtrack

for “I Trust in Him” at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IpnH8uSdCsM> (April 8, 2016).

### B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** Today, we are going to hear about a centurion. A *centurion* is a Roman officer and leader in the army. This officer trusted Jesus. The officer knew that Jesus could help his servant, who was sick. Today’s Bible story teaches us about the Roman officer’s faith or belief in the power of God.

### The Bible Story

#### Healed from a Distance

Jesus went to Capernaum. While there, a *centurion* (officer of the Roman army) sent some Jewish leaders to Jesus. The officer’s servant was sick. The officer believed that Jesus could heal him. The leaders told Jesus that the officer was good to their people. Jesus went with the leaders.

When Jesus was close to the officer’s home, the officer’s friends gave Jesus a message. It said, “Jesus, don’t come to my home. Just say the words and my servant will be healed.”

Jesus was amazed at the officer’s great faith when He heard this. Jesus healed the servant from a distance.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: Why did the army officer send the elders and his friends to Jesus? (*He believed that Jesus could heal his servant who was sick.*) How did Jesus know the soldier had great faith or belief in Jesus? (*The soldier believed that Jesus could say the word and his servant would be healed.*) Did Jesus heal the soldier’s servant? (*Yes.*)

### Bible Story Application

Refer to the lesson 7 Bible Story Application (page 62) and teach the children the action poem “From a Distance.”

### ☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on presentation. The script for Pax appears below.

**Pax:** Hello, boys and girls. When I was playing, I fell and cut my leg. My mom and dad took me to the hospital. I was crying, and my parents told me it would be okay. I was afraid, but I believed my parents. I trusted that everything would be okay. I trust them because they love me and want the best for me. I trust God and God’s Word, too. God loves me. God wants the best for me. God healed my leg!

**Teacher:** Pax, I am happy that God healed your leg. You are right. God loves us always. We can always trust God. And we can always trust God’s Word, too. We have a heavenly Father who is always with us. Our parents may not always be with us, but God is always with us. Boys and girls, do you know God is always with you, and you can trust God to help you? (*Allow the children to respond.*)

**Pax:** I love to pray and ask God to help me at school or when I am afraid. I am thankful that God hears me and answers my prayers. Because we accept Jesus Christ and believe He is God’s Son, we can trust God always to help us. Oh, I’ve gotta go. See you next week!

### C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### The Officer Believed

**Say:** Every day, we can trust that God is with us.

Read each word clue aloud. Instruct the children to use the picture and word clue box to complete the picture puzzle. As a class, review the answers aloud.

**Picture Puzzle Solution:** We can trust and believe that Jesus can heal and help us.

### What Is Faith?

Have the children complete the acrostic puzzle by coloring the first letter of each word. Then, lead them to read the words together to learn more about faith. After the children complete the activity, review the Bible lesson with them.

**Completed Puzzle:** For Answers I Trust Him.

### ☞ Make an “I Believe God” Heart Pendant

Refer to the reproducible activity (page 70) and, using white card stock, make a copy of the template for each child in your class. Pass out the copies and art supplies, then invite the children to decorate their heart pendants with crayons, glitter glue, and other art supplies. When they finish, have them cut out the heart template and punch a hole at the top. Help each child tie yarn through the hole and tie the ends into a knot, and then to write his or her name on the back of the heart.

### D CLOSING BLOCK

**Say:** When we believe that Jesus is God’s Son, we can always trust God, who loves us. God will help us when we are happy or when we are sad. When the officer’s servant was sick, the officer trusted Jesus to help him even though Jesus was not with him. Do you believe that God can help you when you ask? (*Pause for responses.*) God loves you, and He will always help you.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

**Pray:** Dear God, we trust You always to help us. Thank You. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

## NOTES

# A Mother's Faith

April 28, 2024—Lesson 9

**Background Scripture:** Matthew 15:21-28 • **Lesson Scripture:** Matthew 15:21-28

**Key Verse:** Jesus said to [the woman], “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment. (*Matthew 15:28*)

**Faith Block:** God loves everyone!

**Lesson Objective:** The children will discover that God’s love has no boundaries.

**Materials Needed:** *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), a globe or picture of a world map, pencils, crayons, markers, stickers, glitter glue, sparkles, other art supplies, a multimedia device, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

\* \* \* \* \*

## A BEGINNING BLOCK

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see Pax placed on or taken off the puppeteer’s hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children’s view.

### Welcome

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### Opening Worship and Activity

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** Stand up if you know that Jesus loves you! (*Pause for responses/action. Show the children the globe or world map and point to the continents as you say them.*) Jesus loves us here in North America, and He loves children in South America, Africa, Asia, Europe, Australia, and Antarctica. Let us sing a song about how we know Jesus loves us.

Lead the children in singing the song “Jesus Loves Us.” The song is sung to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me.” You can find the “Jesus Loves Me” soundtrack (Karaoke Version) at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aw1as3s2lrY>. The lyrics for “Jesus Loves Us” are below. Play the soundtrack and help the children learn the lyrics as they march in place. Then, add hand movements in the next round.

#### “Jesus Loves Us” Lyrics:

Jesus loves us all, you see! (*Point to each other.*)

In this land and across the seas

(*Use arms to make a big circle.*)

Does not matter where you live (*March in place.*)

Jesus has much love to give (*Place hands on your heart.*)

Yes, Jesus loves us! (*Raise arms in praise!*)

Yes, Jesus loves us! (*Raise arms in praise!*)

Yes, Jesus loves us! (*Raise arms in praise!*)

For the Bible tells us so (*Hold both hands out, palms up.*)

## B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Tell the students that today’s Bible story teaches that God loves and cares about everyone.

### The Bible Story

#### A Mother’s Faith

A *Gentile* (non-Jewish) woman from the land of Canaan called out to Jesus. The woman called Jesus the “Son of David.” Her daughter was sick. She asked Jesus to heal her.

Jesus told the woman that He came first to save the lost people of Israel. The woman was not from Israel. And many people from her land did not follow God. But the woman knelt before Jesus and asked Him to help her, too. The woman believed that Jesus could help everyone—including Gentile people not from Israel.

When Jesus saw the mother’s faith, He healed her daughter.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: Whom did Jesus meet when He went to Tyre and Sidon? (*A woman from the land of Canaan.*) Whom did the woman ask Jesus to help? (*Her daughter.*) Whom did the woman believe Jesus could help and love? (*Everyone.*)

### Bible Story Application

Refer to the lesson 9 Bible Story Application (*page 62*) and teach the children the action story “The Faithful Mother.”

### ☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on presentation. The script for Pax appears below.

**Pax:** Hello, boys and girls. Yesterday, we saw a family at my school game. They were nice to everyone. And we could see their love for each other. Dad said, "They are making God smile because they love each other and everyone they meet." I asked my dad if we should be kind to strangers and show them God's love. Dad said, "Yes!" We should follow Jesus' example and show God's love to everyone, no matter who they are or where they are from.

**Teacher:** Pax, it is wonderful that your dad wants to share God's love with others. Our Bible story teaches us about a mother who believed that Jesus could show love by helping all people, including Jews and Gentiles. We can follow Jesus' example and show kindness and love to everyone. What are some things we can do to show kindness to people we see in a store? *(Allow the children to respond.)*

**Pax:** Great job, boys and girls! We can smile and say hello. We can wave to them. We can help them pick up something if they drop it—because when we help others, we show them love. Just make sure your parents are watching you if you help someone. I believe that God does love everyone. I hope you also believe that God loves you, me, and everyone. Oh, I've gotta go. See you next week!

### C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

### God Loves All People!

**Say:** I believe that God loves and helps everyone.

Instruct the children to color the picture of the different children that God loves. As they work, explain that God always loves everyone.

### Jesus' Travels

Read aloud the instructions from the student book.

**Say:** Jesus walked from Capernaum to Tyre and Sidon in the land of Canaan. Jesus healed a *Gentile* (non-Jewish) woman's daughter who lived there. For this activity, trace Jesus' journey from Capernaum to Tyre and Sidon on the map. *(Hold up a student book and point to the locations as you say them.)* After the activity, we will discuss how Jesus showed His love to the Gentile woman, and how Jesus shows His love to us and everyone in the world.

Allow time for the children to complete the activity.

### D CLOSING BLOCK

**Say:** When the woman saw Jesus, she asked Him to help her daughter. The woman believed that Jesus could help all people. Because the woman had faith or believed, He did what she asked and healed her daughter. Do you have faith or believe that Jesus can help everyone? *(Pause for responses.)* When you leave today, remember to show love to everyone.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

**Pray:** Dear God, thank You for loving everyone no matter who they are or where they are from. You can help everyone. Help us to tell others that You love everyone. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher's guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

## NOTES

## Forgiveness Is a Gift

May 5, 2024—Lesson 10

**Background Scripture:** Romans 3:21-30 • **Lesson Scripture:** Romans 3:21-29

**Key Verses:** There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. (*Romans 3:22b-24*)

**Faith Block:** I believe that I am forgiven!

**Lesson Objective:** The children will discover God’s forgiveness and be willing to forgive others.

**Materials Needed:** *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), a small gift box for each child, gift wrapping paper, transparent tape, bows, pencils, crayons, markers, stickers, glitter glue, safety scissors, a multimedia device, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

\* \* \* \* \*

### A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂ If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see Pax placed on or taken off the puppeteer’s hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children’s view.

✂ Prior to class, label small gift boxes “Forgiveness Is a Gift from God.” Create a labeled gift box for each child.

### Welcome

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### Opening Worship and Activity

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** Raise your hand if you like receiving gifts on your birthday or Christmas. (*Pause for action.*) God has the best gift for us. It is the gift of forgiveness for our wrong choices and sins (disobedience to God). This is the gift of salvation. God sent Jesus to the Cross to take the punishment for our wrong choices and sins. Jesus offers the gift of forgiveness to everyone who trusts and believes that He died on the Cross for our wrong choices and sins.

As a class, pray and thank God for forgiving the children and ask God to help them forgive others.

Give each child a small gift box labeled “Forgiveness Is a Gift from God.” Help each student write his/her name on the back of the box. Give the children art supplies with which to decorate their boxes. As the class decorates their

gift boxes, play the song “Forgive One Another.” You can find the soundtrack with lyrics for “Forgive One Another” at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZ\\_wCZ1gPN4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZ_wCZ1gPN4) (Feb 23, 2019).

### B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Ask:** Is there anyone you need to forgive? (*Pause for responses. Tell the students that God forgives us so that we can follow God’s example and forgive others.*) God is happy when you forgive others and show His love. Today’s Bible story teaches us that forgiveness is a gift from God.

### The Bible Story Forgiveness Is a Gift

Jesus Christ gave His life on the Cross for us! Jesus did this to take the punishment for our *sins* (disobedience). We are made right with God when we have *faith* (belief and trust) in Jesus Christ. God forgives our sins and declares us as not guilty.

We all have *sinned* (disobeyed God). And we are all saved the same way. Everyone, Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews), receives the gift of forgiveness because they believe.

Our good works do not make us right before God. It is our faith in Jesus that makes us right before God.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: What is sin? (*When we disobey God.*) Have you ever disobeyed God? (*Yes.*) What does it mean to have faith in God? (*It means we believe or trust God.*) What is the gift that God gives us when we believe? (*Forgiveness.*) Is there anything we can do to be right before God? (*No. We are made right because Jesus gave His life on the Cross for us.*)

### Bible Story Application

Refer to the lesson 10 Bible Story Application (page 63) and teach the children the action song “We Are Forgiven.”

### ☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on presentation. The script for Pax appears below.

**Pax:** Hello, boys and girls. Last weekend, my friend Todd promised to come to my sleepover. But he did not come or call. I was upset with him. When my dad saw that I was quiet, he said, “You should not be upset with your friend. Remember that God forgives you, and you should forgive Todd.” When I saw Todd at school, he said he was sorry he could not attend the sleepover. I waited a second and told him, “I forgive you.” I know I did what was right.

**Teacher:** Yes, Pax, you were right to forgive your friend. We follow God’s example when we love and forgive others. Our Bible story for today is about God’s gift of forgiveness. Do you know that God wants you to love and forgive others as He loves and forgives you, boys and girls? (*Allow the children to respond.*)

**Pax:** I want to follow God’s example. I felt good when I forgave my friend. Do you want to follow God’s example by showing love and forgiveness? (*Allow the children to respond.*) I know I can forgive others like God has forgiven me—and you can, too. Well, I’ve gotta go. See you next week!

### C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### “By Faith, I Am Forgiven”

**Say:** Everyone who believes that Jesus gave His life on the Cross for their sins is forgiven.

Read the Bible verse and clues to the children. Instruct the children to draw a line from each underlined word to its picture clue.

**Bible Verse:** (1) For we maintain that a person (2) is justified (3) by faith (4) apart from the works of the law. (Romans 3:28)

**Answers:** (1) **person = picture of the child;** (2) **justified = picture of a cross;** (3) **faith = picture of a heart;** (4) **law = picture of the scales of justice (law scales)**

### “I Am Forgiven!”

Help each child write his or her name in the proper space if he/she believes that God forgives him or her for his or her sins. Afterwards, as a class, review the importance of having faith in receiving forgiveness.

### D CLOSING BLOCK

**Say:** When we believe that Jesus went to the Cross for our sins, our sins are forgiven, and we become God’s children. We can only receive forgiveness by believing and trusting in Jesus. Do you want to be made right before God? (*Pause for responses.*) Talk to your parents or guardians or another Christian adult when you leave today about your decision.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

**Pray:** Dear God, thank You for the gift of forgiveness. Help us to show Your love and forgiveness to others as You have forgiven us. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

## NOTES

**Background Scripture:** Romans 10:1-21 • **Lesson Scripture:** Romans 10:5-13

**Key Verse:** “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (*Romans 10:13*)

**Faith Block:** Jesus is the Way!

**Lesson Objective:** The children will discover the way to God is by believing Jesus gave His life on the Cross for them.

**Materials Needed:** *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), white card stock, 5x5-inch white heart cutouts, self-adhesive magnetic strips, pencils, crayons, markers, stickers, glitter glue, safety scissors, other art supplies, a multimedia device, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

\* \* \* \* \*

## A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂️ If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see Pax placed on or taken off the puppeteer’s hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children’s view.

✂️ Prior to class, (1) copy each child’s reproducible craft on white card stock; (2) purchase heart cutouts or draw or print them out, using white card stock. Add the following text to each heart: “Jesus Gave His Life for You and Me.”

### Welcome

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### Opening Worship and Activity

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

**Say:** We have been talking a lot about the gift of salvation that God gives to everyone who trusts and believes that Jesus went to the Cross for their sins. Do you remember? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes, Jesus went to the Cross to take our punishment for our sins and wrong choices. And God raised Jesus from the grave. Jesus is the only way that we can become friends with God. Let us decorate a “Jesus Gave His Life for You and Me” heart cutout.

Give each student a heart cutout (labeled “Jesus Gave His Life for You and Me”) and art supplies. After the students color their hearts, sing “Jesus Is the Way, the Truth, and the Life,” and march around the room as you sing the song. Help the children learn the lyrics as they sing the

song. You can find the soundtrack for “Jesus Is the Way, the Truth, and the Life” at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hiQBOR-nSSc> (November 5, 2021).

## B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Tell the children that today’s Bible story teaches us that Jesus is the only way to God. Whoever believes that Jesus gave His life for them will have a new life with God. As you read the story, have the children raise their heart cutouts whenever you say the name *Jesus*.

### The Bible Story

#### The Way

Moses wrote about being made right by obeying God’s laws. But no one can obey every law! Paul wrote that we are made right because of what we believe. Paul believed and trusted in Jesus Christ for *salvation* (gift of everlasting life). Paul preached that Jesus is the way.

The only way for us to know God is by saying with our mouths, “Jesus is Lord.” We must believe and trust with our hearts (or fully) that God raised Jesus from the dead. Anyone who believes in Jesus will not be disappointed. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord God will be saved.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: What happens when you say it with your mouth and believe in your heart that Jesus went to the Cross for you? (*You are saved from your sins and have a new life with God.*) How many people are saved when they believe that Jesus went to the Cross? (*Everyone.*) Does God want everyone to call on Jesus, believe, and be saved? (*Yes.*)

### Bible Story Application

Refer to the lesson 13 Bible Story Application (page 63) and teach the children the action rhyme “The Good News.”

### ☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on presentation. The script for Pax appears below.

**Pax:** Hello, boys and girls. When I call out “Mom” or “Dad,” my mom or dad hears me and comes to me. When we call Jesus and let God know we believe that Jesus went to the Cross for us and was raised from the dead, God hears us. And we have a new life with God.

**Teacher:** Yes, Pax, you are right. God hears anyone who calls His name. Our Bible story for today is about believing that Jesus is the way to God. Anything that we do that does not make God happy—our sins—can be forgiven by God. Do you know that God loves you so much that Jesus went to the Cross for you, boys and girls? *(Allow the children to respond.)*

**Pax:** Because I believe in Jesus, I can talk to God. When I pray, God hears my prayers. God wants to know me, and now I can talk to God anytime. I am so thankful that God loves me and wants to know me. Do you know that God loves you and wants to know you, boys and girls? *(Allow the children to respond.)* That is great! Well, I’ve gotta go. See you next week!

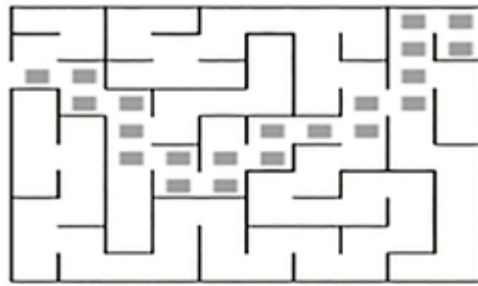
### C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

### The Path to God!

**Say:** When you believe that Jesus went to the Cross and was raised from the dead, you have found the way to God.

Instruct the children to complete the maze. Discuss some things we do that show that we love and follow Jesus.



### Jesus Is the Way!

**Say:** Trying to keep all the rules does not make us right with God. Jesus is the only way to God. Color the Bible story picture.

As the children color, review the Bible lesson with them.

### ✂ Make a “Jesus Is the Way to God” Cross Magnet

Refer to the reproducible activity (page 71) and, using white card stock, make copies of the cross template and give one to each child. Help each child write his/her name on the back of it, then invite the children to decorate their crosses with art supplies. They may then cut out the cross and apply a self-adhesive magnetic strip to the back of it.

### D CLOSING BLOCK

**Say:** When we say that Jesus is the Son of God who went to the Cross for us, and we believe and trust it in our hearts that Jesus was raised from the dead, we have a new life with God. Our sins, or anything that does not please God, are forgiven, and we receive new life in God. Do you know that God loves you so much that He wants to know each of you? *(Pause for responses.)* When you leave today, tell someone that Jesus is the Way to God.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

**Pray:** Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You made a way for us to come to You. Help us to tell others that Jesus is the way to You. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.



# Reproducible Bible Story Applications

*Note: In action songs, the singing and the movement(s) (either underneath each line or preceding a group of lines) should take place simultaneously. Also, any of the tunes of these melodies or nursery rhymes can be found online through an Internet search.*

March 3, 2024

## AN ACTION RHYME

### When We Stumble

When we stumble, we do not fall  
*(Pretend to fall down.)*  
God is greater than us all  
*(Bring both arms up like a strong man.)*  
No matter what challenges we face—  
*(Place both hands up in surrender position.)*  
God is there to strengthen our faith  
*(Bring both hands together and clap three times.)*

March 10, 2024

## A FINGER-PLAY POEM

### A Test of Faith

We should rejoice!  
*(Wave hands in the air in celebration.)*  
We should encourage one another  
*(Pat someone on the back.)*  
We should love one another  
*(Point to your heart.)*  
We should live in peace . . .  
*(Make a peace sign.)*  
So that God's love will be with us  
*(Make a large circle with your fingers. Then place hands in the sign of a heart.)*

March 17, 2024

## AN ACTION SONG

### Love Is Best

*(Sing to the tune off "On Top of Old Smokey.")*  
Though they may mistreat you  
*(Point to the room; then point to self.)*  
Don't pay them back  
*(Point around the room; then wave your finger from side to side, indicating no.)*

Lesson 1

Jesus paid the price for you.  
*(Cross arms over chest, then point around the room.)*  
Love is best, that's a fact!  
*(Make a heart shape with your fingers.)*

March 24, 2024

## A READ-ALLOUD STORY

### Faithful Stephen

There once was a man named Stephen.  
He was full of amazing power.  
And that was the big reason why  
The people around him turned sour.  
The Holy Spirit was with him;  
This gave him great power and might.  
He praised the Lord above them,  
And the people put up a fight.  
But their meanness didn't hurt Stephen;  
He never became afraid.  
Would you like to know the reason?  
Because with God, his faith stayed.

Lesson 4

Lesson 2

March 31, 2024

## AN ACTION POEM

### Empty Tomb

Three women went to Jesus' tomb  
*(Have three fingers lifted and march in place.)*  
It was early in the day  
*(Bring hands together over your head and spread them wide, then bring them down.)*  
The angel told them that Jesus was risen!  
*(Lift hands in a waving motion.)*  
They were amazed, and they ran away!  
*(Wave hands in the air and run in place.)*

Lesson 5

Lesson 3

# Reproducible Bible Story Applications

April 7, 2024

Lesson 6 : April 21, 2024

Lesson 8

## AN ACTION RHYME

### Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

Jesus healed a man who could not walk

*(Make a walking motion.)*

His friends brought him close, but there  
was no room

*(Make a carrying motion.)*

They lowered him to Jesus, and there was talk—

*(Make a talking motion with your hands.)*

Because Jesus would heal him, and he  
would walk soon

*(Make a walking motion.)*

## A SING-ALONG

### His Love Is Forever

*(Sing to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me.")*

It does not matter what I do  
Jesus still loves me, this is true  
He saves me and provides release  
For me to live my days in peace

Yes, Jesus loves me

Yes, Jesus loves me

Yes, Jesus loves me

It's this I know for sure

April 14, 2024

Lesson 7 : April 28, 2024

Lesson 9

## AN ACTION POEM

### From a Distance

The centurion had faith that was uncommon

*(Place arms in the shape of a cross.)*

His servant was sick, and he needed help

*(Place hands on chest and cough.)*

He believed that Jesus could make him well

*(Raise arms up in praise position.)*

He didn't let his unworthiness make him fail

*(Hang head and raise arms.)*

Because he believed, from a distance, Jesus did  
the impossible.

*(Raise arms in praise position.)*

## AN ACTION STORY

### The Faithful Mother

Her daughter needed Jesus' help.

*(Hands held together in a begging position.)*

When Jesus refused, what could she do?

*(Cross arms and shake head no.)*

Her faith kept her strong and then

*(Raise arms in praise position.)*

The mother stayed firm when Jesus refused.

*(Cross arms and shake head no.)*

She asked and she asked—

until her daughter was healed.

*(Raise arms above head in praise position.)*

# Reproducible Bible Story Applications

May 5, 2024

## AN ACTION SONG

### We Are Forgiven

*(Sing to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me.")*

I love Jesus, and He loves me  
*(Make a heart with your fingers.)*

I am part of His family  
*(Wave arms in a wide, open circle.)*

He paid for forgiveness for you and me  
*(Point up and then point to self.)*

And His forgiveness comes for free  
*(Raise hands in the air and wiggle fingers.)*

We are forgiven

We are forgiven

We are forgiven

Because Jesus loves us so

*(Make a heart with your fingers.)*

May 12, 2024

## AN ACTION POEM

### Children of the Promise

Abraham had faith in God that never failed  
*(Cross your fingers to make a cross.)*

The father of many, he is hailed  
*(Raise hands and wiggle fingers.)*

God made him a promise that gives us all a part.  
*(Point upward toward the sky and circle arms to include everyone.)*

If we just trust and believe in our hearts.  
*(Make a heart shape with your fingers.)*

Lesson 10 : May 19, 2024

## A SING-ALONG

### Belief Brings Peace

*(Sing to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.")*

Jesus gives us peace, you know  
For my Bible tells me so  
Our faith in Jesus brings us peace  
To live together harmoniously  
Jesus gives us peace, you know  
For my Bible tells me so

Lesson 12

May 26, 2024

## AN ACTION RHYME

### The Good News

We have Good News—Good News for all  
*(Wave hands in celebration.)*

Jesus helps us when we fall  
*(Hold hands out in a steady motion.)*

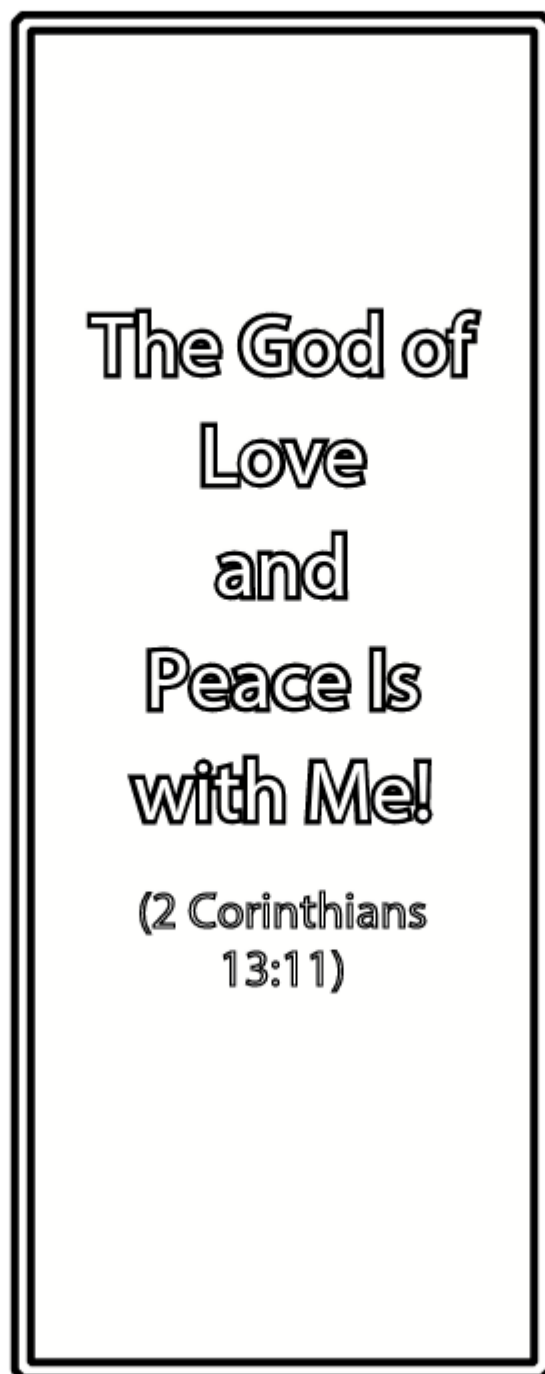
Jesus paid the price and set the pace  
*(Motion like you are passing out money.)*

For us to be reunited with God through grace  
*(Hug self and waves hands in celebration.)*

Lesson 13

## Early Elementary Activities

### LESSON 2 EARLY ELEMENTARY Make a “God Is with Me” Bookmark



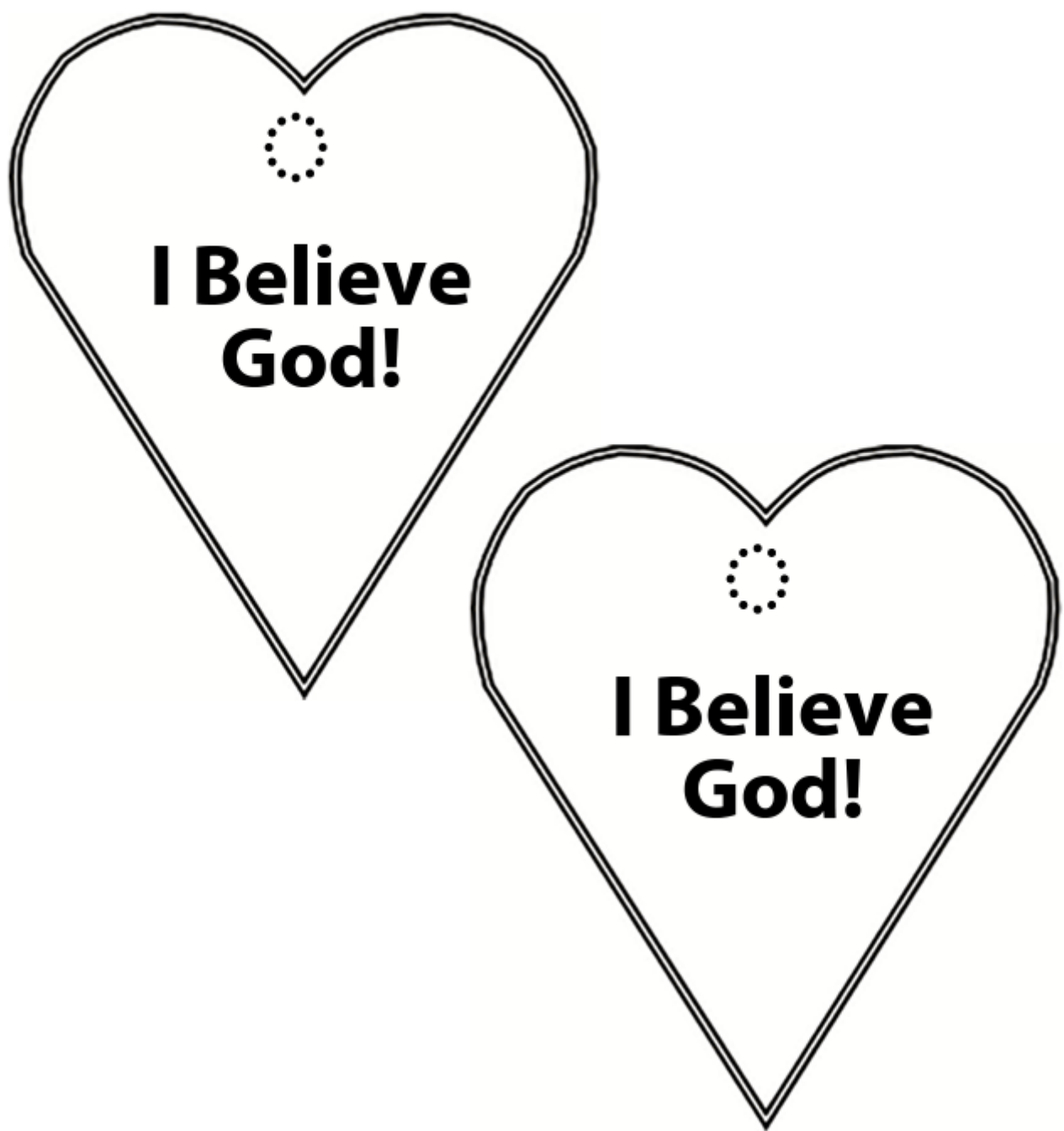
## Early Elementary Activities

### LESSON 4 EARLY ELEMENTARY Make an “I Will Obey God” Door Hanger



## Early Elementary Activities

### LESSON 7 EARLY ELEMENTARY Make an “I Believe God” Heart Pendant



## Early Elementary Activities

### LESSON 13 EARLY ELEMENTARY

Make a “Jesus Is the Way to God” Cross Magnet

