



Lesson #1
GRADES 5 & 6
TEACHER GUIDE

TODAY'S THEME: Real CHAMPIONS walk with God!

BIBLE REFERENCE: Numbers 13,14

STORY SUMMARY: Caleb and Joshua believed the Lord's word that he would give the Children of Israel the promised land.

APPLICATION: Just as Joshua and Caleb walked through the promised land knowing that the Lord would keep his promise, so we should walk with God and rely on his promises.

PRIVATE PEP TALK: Complete reliance on God's promises is not an easy thing for us to do. Joshua and Caleb taught us that if God promises something, we should accept it. That's faith! That's walking with God completely! That means we know we are forgiven. We know we needn't worry about tomorrow. We know we have eternal life. We know all things will work together for good. Teachers need to learn this as well as the students.

PREPARATION:

1. The prayer for today is: Heavenly Father, be in my words, be in my actions, be in my thoughts today that I may show these precious children that walking beside you brings me the greatest joy I can imagine. In Jesus' name. Amen.
2. You can introduce the lesson by trying the memory game of placing ten items on a tray and giving the students 15 seconds to study them. After that time, remove the items and have them try to remember them.
3. Study the story from the Bible and lesson sheet.
4. Review the activity sheet.
5. Study the day's songs.
6. Don't forget the memory passage.

SCHEDULE:

1. Group devotion.
 2. Introduce yourself to the class.
 3. Tell the story and read it from the lesson sheet or the Bible.
 4. Do the activity sheet.
 5. Recess and refreshment.
 6. Singing practice.
 7. Craft time.
 8. Clean up/Recap the day's lesson/ Close with prayer/Dismiss.
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ACTIVITY SHEET DIRECTIONS & ANSWERS

FACTS:

1. *God wished to give them the new promised land.*
2. *He promised them a "land flowing with milk and honey."*
3. *They were supposed to search out the land and people.*
4. *Joshua and Caleb both said that since God promised them the land, they should follow that promise.*
5. *God saw the absence of faith in "his people."*

THOUGHTS:

1. *Are we any different? Look at the many promises God has given us, and we have the Scriptures to see his faithfulness.*
2. *The 10 spies were looking only at their own weakness before the armies of the promised land.*
3. *Joshua and Caleb were looking at the blessing God wished to give them.*
4. *It was God who wished to give them the land.*
5. *Caleb and Joshua were truly role models for us to follow.*

THE REST OF THE STORY: *The children will see that throughout Caleb's life he walked with God.*

CODE TIME: THE LORD WILL BE WITH US. DON'T BE AFRAID OF THEM!

TWO DIARIES: *Answers will vary.*



Lesson #2
GRADES 5 & 6
TEACHER GUIDE

TODAY'S THEME: Real CHAMPIONS speak up!

BIBLE REFERENCE: 2 Kings 5:1-15

STORY SUMMARY: The servant girl told Naaman where to find healing from his disease. She led him to discover that it is God who heals the body as well as the soul.

APPLICATION: We have been given many opportunities to speak out to others about our God who loves us and gives us healing for our bodies and our souls.

PRIVATE PEP TALK: Who are the REAL CHAMPIONS we shall meet this week? They're folks just like you and me. They're ordinary people - teachers and secretaries, housewives and teenagers, children and grandparents. What makes them different is that they are willing to speak out, to forgive and kneel, to live for and walk with their God. Your students are these ordinary champions just as you are.

PREPARATION:

1. Begin each day with prayer. Today we pray: Lord, help me to teach the precious truths of this lesson clearly that your love may reach deeply into the hearts of the lambs you have entrusted to my care. May they discover that true joy comes with spreading the wonderful news of your great love for us. In Jesus' name. Amen.
2. Study the lesson carefully. Always read it from the lesson sheet and from the Holy Bible. If possible, also refer to reliable commentaries to aid you in your preparation.
3. Study the activity sheet. Notice the memory passage on the top. Always spend time with that passage.
4. Practice the songs for today.
5. Prepare yourself for a closing prayer.

SCHEDULE:

1. Greet the students as they enter the room.
2. Meet for the group devotion.
3. Tell the day's lesson. The opening questions should spark some lively discussion.
4. Do the activity sheet.
5. Recess and refreshment.
6. Singing practice.
7. Craft time.
8. Clean up/Recap the day's lesson/Close with prayer/Dismiss.

ACTIVITY SHEET DIRECTIONS AND ANSWERS

FACTS:

1. Naaman was a commander of the army of Aram.
2. Answers will vary.
3. She was willing to accept her lot in life.
4. Elisha surprises Naaman with a simple command to wash 7 times in the Jordan River.
5. Naaman received healing - not from the water but from the Lord.

THOUGHTS:

1. It is so important - even for 5th and 6th graders - to consider how they will raise their children someday.
2. It was purely the Lord's healing hand that cured Naaman.
3. Naaman did the expected - he figured at first that their rivers were just as good.
4. We probably would have had a similar reaction.
5. God can heal us through certain medicines, but only God heals - not energy or special powers - only God.

THE REST OF THE STORY: Read the Scripture reference and discuss.

WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO: GO, TELL

NOTE THIS: Answers will vary.



Lesson #3
GRADES 5 & 6
TEACHER GUIDE

TODAY'S THEME: Real CHAMPIONS forgive!

BIBLE REFERENCE: Genesis 37:12-36; 42-45

STORY SUMMARY: Joseph's brothers hated him and treated him cruelly, yet Joseph saw in his heart the need to forgive them for their thoughts and their actions.

APPLICATION: We too, can learn a very important lesson from Joseph. Just as he forgave his brothers for the terrible things they did to him, so we also should forgive those around us for sinning against us.

PRIVATE PEP TALK: Revenge is a part of life today! We see it on the athletic field, we hear it in the news, we notice it in politics. It's all around us. Here is a difficult concept to teach, since the children are often taught otherwise. We must impress on our children that the Lord alone holds the right to vengeance and expects us to always forgive.

PREPARATION:

1. Begin with prayer: Dearest Lord, help us to follow the example you set when on the cross, that we should always be ready to forgive those who sin against us. Be with my presentation today that I may pass this truth along to the lambs you have given me this week. I ask this in the name of Jesus, the one who has forgiven me. Amen.
2. Prepare to introduce the lesson by speaking about sibling love and dislike. All families have some of each!
3. Study the lesson from the Bible and from the lesson sheet.
4. Study the activity sheet.
5. Review the day's songs.

SCHEDULE:

1. Group devotion.
 2. Tell the story.
 3. Do the activity sheet.
 4. Recess and refreshment.
 5. Singing practice.
 6. Craft time.
 7. Clean up/Recap the day's lesson/Close with prayer/Dismiss.
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ACTIVITY SHEET DIRECTIONS & ANSWERS

FACTS:

1. Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Joseph, Benjamin
2. At first they wished to kill him - so much was their hatred.
3. Joseph worked his way up to serve in a head government position.
4. There was a famine in the land.
5. Joseph knew that God works all things out for the good of his people.

THOUGHTS:

1. They should all be treated fairly and equally.
2. Discuss!
3. Joseph accepted what God gave him - just as the servant girl with Naaman.
4. Joseph was wronged perhaps more than any of us ever will be yet he still forgave his brothers.
5. Answers will vary.

THE REST OF THE STORY

The answer is "yes" to both questions.

USE YOUR BIBLES:

1. Forgive my hidden faults.
2. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."
3. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.
4. But with you there is forgiveness.
5. But you are a forgiving God.

RECORDING STUDIO: Answers will vary.



TODAY'S THEME: Real CHAMPIONS kneel!

BIBLE REFERENCE: John 19:1-30

STORY SUMMARY: Because John wanted to be near his Savior, we find him at the foot of the cross when Jesus died.

APPLICATION: John showed us that we, too, should be found at the foot of our Savior's cross, for it is there we find comfort and forgiveness.

PRIVATE PEP TALK: It seems that the older we become, the more self-confident we are in our actions. Adults often don't wish to be seen crying, or praying, and especially kneeling. Here we learn that kneeling is not a sign of weakness, but a sign of strength, for it is at the foot of Jesus cross that we discover that our strength, our hope, and our joy all comes from the forgiveness we have found in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

PREPARATION:

1. Our prayer to begin today: Lord, give me a humble and contrite heart as I teach the children today. Let me be willing to kneel at your cross just as I am telling your children to do. Hear my prayer for the sake of Jesus, who hung on that cross that everyone might have everlasting life. Amen.
2. Today's story has a different introduction. We begin by asking children to explain what Christmas is all about. This then would tie into the life and purpose of Jesus, including the need for him to die on the cross.
3. Study the lesson from the lesson sheet and also the Bible.
4. Review the activity sheet.
5. Review the songs for the day.

SCHEDULE:

1. Group devotion.
2. Teach the day's lesson.
3. Do the activity sheet.
4. Recess and refreshment.
5. Singing practice.
6. Craft time.
7. Clean up/Recap the day's lesson/Close with prayer/Dismiss.

ACTIVITY SHEET DIRECTIONS AND ANSWERS

FACTS:

1. *This baby was no ordinary boy. He was the son of God.*
2. *Sin began with Adam and Eve disobeying God in the Garden of Eden.*
3. *Jesus died that he might receive all the punishment that we deserved. Because of Jesus' death, we can now stand before the throne of God wearing the robes of his righteousness.*
4. *John and Mary were at Jesus' side when he died.*
5. *John loved his Savior. He wanted to be with his Savior in death just as he was in life.*

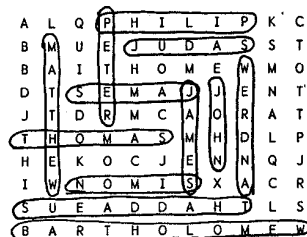
THOUGHTS:

1. *Answers will vary.*
2. *Without a Savior there would be no way of satisfying a God who demanded lives free of sin.*
3. *It was truly a good day for all who believe in Jesus.*
4. *When Jesus died, he proved to have borne the weight and punishment of everyone's sins.*
5. *By rising from the dead he proved that sin had lost its grip and it no longer could keep us from life everlasting.*

THE REST OF THE STORY:

Read this selection to the class and discuss.

THE DISCIPLES ARE LOST:





TODAY'S THEME: Real CHAMPIONS live as God's children!

BIBLE REFERENCE: Acts 16:1-5 (Various)

STORY SUMMARY: When Timothy was very young, he was taught about his Savior. He continued to live his faith as a teenager and as an adult missionary.

APPLICATION: On this final day, children should take with them the truth that our entire life is to be lived for the Lord.

PRIVATE PEP TALK: This is the last opportunity you will have in this VBS session to be with your children. Be certain to review the necessary basics that you have been teaching throughout the course. God loves me. He sent Jesus to die on the cross for my salvation. I now wish to become a champion for him that others may see his love through me.

PREPARATION:

1. Final prayer: Lord God, this is my last day to teach this class. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to teach these children about your great love for them. May your Holy Spirit continue to work in their hearts that one day I might see each of them in heaven. In the name of Jesus, their Savior and mine. Amen.
2. Study the lesson in the Bible and on the lesson sheet.
3. Set aside some time to review the other four stories as well.
4. Be prepared to do the activity sheet. Have colored markers available for the T-shirt.
5. Now comes the opportunity for the students to memorize the passage they have heard all week.

SCHEDULE:

1. Group devotion.
 2. Tell the day's story.
 3. Do the activity sheet.
 4. Recess and refreshment.
 5. Review each of the songs.
 6. Craft time.
 7. Be certain each child has all their papers to take home.
 8. Clean up/Recap/Closing prayer/Dismiss.
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ACTIVITY SHEET DIRECTIONS AND ANSWERS

FACTS:

1. Paul was once a persecutor of Christians. (See REST OF THE STORY). God's powerful word converted him.
2. Paul had established a congregation at Lystra.
3. We know that Timothy was taught about Jesus from an early age. This should be pointed out since these youngsters will someday raise families of their own.
4. Timothy traveled with Paul and became a missionary himself.
5. Timothy showed us what it means to follow his Lord.

THOUGHTS:

1. This is important for us to remember. Eunice and Lois set examples for our future families.
2. Missionaries tell others about their Lord and Savior. What a wonderful calling.
3. Anyone can be a missionary in their own neighborhoods.
4. The message we would tell is that we are sinners, we need a Savior, Jesus is that Savior, and if we believe in him we will live eternally in heaven.
5. Without this message no one can hope to enter heaven.

THE REST OF THE STORY

Read this to the students.

WHAT'S IN YOUR FUTURE: Give the students a few moments to write and then discuss them in class.