

PREFACE

OUR SAVIOUR AND HIS CHILDREN

Note to Teachers:

- It is our responsibility to make every child understand how much Jesus loves little children. He holds them in His own arms and blesses them. Try your best to let every child understand that they are PRECIOUS in God's sight. As you act as a channel of His Blessings among the children, may God grant you the joy of being in His service. May God bless you!
- Trust that Jesus will work through your yielded life "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20 "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5
- Believe and expect God to work through His Holy Word as each week you memorize God's Word with the children. "'For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.'" Isaiah 55:10-11
- Fast and Pray, many children's workers around the world have been fasting and praying for you according to Isaiah 58. Please join us in fasting in praying (as the Lord leads) for your children and for more workers of all nations.

Teachers please seek to communicate these truths with the children you are blessed to serve every week:

- **Every Child is precious**
"Let the little children come to me, do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 9:14
- Children, God loves you all so much! The Bible tells us this. Jesus has a special Concern Matthew 18:14, Care: Matthew 18:5, and Compassion (Mark 10:14), in His heart for children.
- You are the future. The world belongs to you! Through these stories, you will learn how to draw near to God.
- He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven."
- "And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea." Matthew 18:2-6
- The following collection of true histories comes from the Holy Bible. These stories are relevant today, and will remain so tomorrow and forever. The stories and the life lessons they teach have been adapted to suit our ever-changing world. We must remember that no matter how much the world around us changes, our human condition will remain. We will still face the same challenges of temptation and sin. Remember, The Holy Bible is a double-edged sword that prepares us for battle against sin.

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A BRAVE SHEPHERD BOY (1)

One Main Truth: God Looks at the heart



1 GAME: Grab the Rock

1. Divide everyone into two teams. Each team stands shoulder-to-shoulder facing the center.
2. Give each player a number each group should have a one, a two, a three, making sure each child has a number.
3. Explain that when children hear their number called they will run to the center and try to pick up the "Rock." Place the "Rock" in the center of the playing area.
4. Play one round normal as instructed above. Then play a round with a "guard" next to the sock, if the guard tags a player they have to sit down. (Players will be less brave when there is a guard guarding the sock.)
5. Play one last round with a helper that can "freeze" the guard so the players can be brave and not fear the guard.

Game Life Connection: Someone helped you be brave in the game / God helped David be brave / God will help you be brave



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Young shepherd: Long ago, there lived a young shepherd boy in a town of Bethlehem. David was the youngest of Jesse's eight sons. His handsome brothers were already in the army, but David being the youngest was home taking care of the sheep. As a shepherd David mostly was alone, the only company he had were his sheep, his harp, and God. In the spring, everyday David took his flock to graze in the pastures. When summer heat set in, he would move his flocks to cooler pastures. Each evening, he counted the

sheep and checked on their health. He would work and sleep outdoors, allowing the flock to graze and spending the nights guarding the sheep from predators.

David vs wild animals: David usually carried a small leather bag, a sling, and a shepherd's staff. Shepherd life was lonely and dangerous too especially from wild animals. One day a loud bleating cry of a lamb alarmed his attention. He quickly took his staff, ran toward it and there he saw a lion snatching away a lamb. He fought the mighty lion and took the lamb back from its mouth. Later a ferocious bear tried to kill a lamb yet David fought and killed the bear too (1 Sam. 17:36). He always protected his sheep attack from wild animals. David grew fearless because he shared a very close relationship with God. During this life as a shepherd he developed a firm relationship that shapes his life as a man of God. If we trust and nurture our relationship with God, He helps us to be brave and fearless.

The soothing composer: David loved to sit outside under the stars and play his harp. As he watched the beauty in the sky, God's marvellous creation touched his core. David experienced many challenging situations and his personal experiences with God enabled him to compose some of the most touching and beautiful songs ever written. One of his famous psalms is "The Lord is my Shepherd" (Ps. 23), expresses his intimate and unshakable relationship with God which he had developed while tending sheep. When God's spirit departs from King Saul, he became very disturbed and lost his sanity, it was David's soothing music that gave rest and peace to Saul's restless mind (1 Sam. 16:16).

Young David anointed: Prophet Samuel anointed Saul to be Israel's first king. When a person is anointed oil is placed on their head to set them apart for a particular job, in this case to be King. When God rejected Saul for his disobedience, He sent Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint David, a man after God's own heart as the next king. He came to Jesse's house and saw all

the tall, handsome and impressive older sons. They all had very attractive physiques that Samuel thought all would perfectly fit to be a king. However God wasn't looking for good physical structure, He was looking at the heart of man. The older handsome brothers were rejected and at last Joseph the youngest simple shepherd was brought in and Samuel anointed him to be the king as directed by God. The modest and brave David was chosen as king because his heart was right with God. Man judges by the outward appearance but God look at heart.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outside of a person. But the LORD looks at what is in the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7b

*** GAME *** Why were you more brave when you had someone help you block the guard in our game?

*** BIBLE *** That sounds a lot like David, why was David so brave? When Samuel came to anoint the next King what was he looking for? What was God looking for? What made David so Brave? Did Samuel anoint the oldest son, or he tallest son? Who was anointed to be king? Why?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me "God thank you for telling us about David, God thank you for looking at my heart and attitude and character because I can be a small person, but God you can do great things through me. Let's be quiet and ask God what he wants to do in your life *pause* God help me to be brave and always trust you.

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Provide crayons and let the children draw David tending sheep, where a lion and a bear looking to attack.

TRUE VICTORY (2)

**One Main Truth: God is Victorious,
Therefore I am victorious**



1. Game: Rock Paper Scissors

1. Explain the rules of the game. Players make their hand into a fist, bend their elbow, straight their arm, on the third time they make their choice: Rock, Paper or Scissor. Rock = a hand in a fist, Paper = hand flat, Scissor = two fingers. Explain Rock defeats Scissors, Paper defeats Rock, and Scissors defeats Paper.
2. Have children pair up with a partner and play. IMPORTANT the player that does not win must line up behind the player that won making team of two.
3. Play again with the players that won playing against another player that won. The team that does not win lines up behind the winning team making a team of four.
4. Keep playing until there are only two players left that have won every time and all the children are lined up and on one of the teams.
5. The last round explain that the player that wins will win the victory for the entire team! Ask players if they want to switch teams. Play the last round and congratulate the winning team.

Game Life Connection: You are Victorious in the Game because Your Representative Won / Israel is Victorious because David Won / You are Victorious because Jesus is Victorious:



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

God is Stronger: Once upon a time a war broke out between the Israelites and the Philistines in the valley of Elah. Every morning and evening, a 9 foot tall giant named Goliath challenged and abused the Israelites. Seeing the giant every

Israelite shook like a leaf and no one could stand up to his challenge. David arrived at the scene and indignantly said, *"Who is this man to defy the army of living God? The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."* (1 Sam: 17: 37). Having such a complete faith in God, the young shepherd volunteered to fight the veteran Giant. He picked up five smooth stones and marched forward to meet Goliath. *"Do you think I am a dog? Goliath cursed David. "You come against me with sword," David shouted, "but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty,"* and David hurled the stone from his sling quickly which hit Goliath right in the forehead and he fell down dead. David knew God was with him and indeed He fought for him.

Model friendship: Defeating Goliath brought David to king's palace and Saul kept him there. But soon David's popularity grew so rapidly that Saul became so jealous of him. But Prince Jonathan, Saul's son, really liked David and they became good friend, one in spirit. Jonathan even took off his robe, armour, sword, bow and gave them to David (1 Sam. 18:1-4). But Saul's jealousy for David only increased and he attempted to kill David on many occasions. Even so, Jonathan defended David no matter what. Their friendship shows us that there is a deeper kind of friendship. A friendship based not on what you can get from a person, but out of love for that person. When we love our friend as much as we love ourselves, we are willing to sacrifice ourselves for them. Their friendship was based on sincere and genuine love, a friendship meant to protect and build one another up.

David's Achievements: David was victorious in many battles because he trusted not in himself, but in God for the victory. He was able to unify all 12 tribes of Israel. Under his leadership they conquered Jerusalem and established as the permanent capital of their kingdom. He expanded the territory and the nation became prosperous. However, David's greatest accomplishment was to be called a man after God's



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: *"You come against me with sword and spear... but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty" 1 Samuel 17:45*

*** GAME *** Raise your hand if your team won the Rock Paper Scissors Game? Why were you so excited when your representative won the game?

*** BIBLE *** We heard today that young boy won a battle, can someone raise their hand and tell me us about the battle? What did the little David have to fight the battle? (a rock and a sling, but David trusted God). Who was David trusting? (God, not his own strength) What happened to Israel when their representative won the battle? (they were victorious)

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you that you won a great battle through David and all Israel became victorious. Jesus thank you for winning the greatest battle as my representative and making me victorious. Boys and girls tell God thank you in your own heart right now *Pause* Jesus because you are victorious I am victorious!"

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional): Play target shoot: Make a 9 foot Goliath out of card board and write five daily temptations or challenges on his forehead. Tape it on the wall. Using paper balls, ask the children to hit the temptations or challenges.

FROM ORPHAN GIRL TO QUEEN (3)

One Main Truth: God looks at the heart



1 GAME: Big Shirt Relay

1. Divide children into 4 teams, have 4 large men's t-shirts.
2. First player puts on shirt (over clothes) runs to the other side and comes back and gives the t-shirt to the next player.
3. When all team members have run have the players sit down. The first team with all the player sitting down is the winner.
4. [Note to the Coach: Whatever team won give the winning t-shirt to the slowest team.]
6. Run the race again. Repeat this several times. Soon the players will realize that whoever is the fastest will win the game, not the team with the "winning t-shirt"]

Game Life Connection: True power is from within / True Beauty is from Within / God lives within Your Heart



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

It was the time when Jews of were taken into captivity in Babylon (modern day Iraq) by King Nebuchadnezzar. Later the Babylonian empire was conquered by King Cyrus the great. When he came to power, he issued the decree to allow the Jews to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the city and the temple.

An Orphan: Esther was a young Jewish slave girl who lived in the Persian city of Shushan. Many years before, Esther's family had also been taken

as captives from Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar. When Esther's parents died, the orphaned child was adopted and raised by her older cousin Mordecai. Esther honoured her cousin and obeyed him as a good daughter. Mordecai served in the Persian ruler's palace. Esther must have had a very difficult childhood but, God had a plan for her life.

Mordecai was a Jewish man who loved and obeyed the one true God. Since he loved and obeyed the one true God he also taught Esther to love and obey God.

Queen Vashti Deposed: One day the king, Xerxes, threw a lavish party. He calls his queen Vashti wearing her royal crown, in order to display her beauty to the people and guests. But the queen refused to appear before Xerxes. Filled with anger, King deposed Queen Vashti, forever removing her from his palace.

A New Queen: King Xerxes hosted a royal beauty contest to select a new queen. She was to be the most beautiful woman in the land. All the beautiful young girls in the kingdom were gathered together and taken care of in the palace for one year. Esther was very beautiful so Mordecai sent Esther to prepare to meet the king. During this whole process, Esther did not reveal the fact that she was Jewish. She won the favor of everyone who saw her along and with the King and so he chose Esther to be his queen. He chose her for her beauty, but God placed Esther in the exact place because he knew her heart. God can do amazing things in difficult circumstances through those who will yield to His plan, trust in Him, obey His Word and walk with Him every day.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "But let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious." 1 Peter 3:4

*** GAME *** Did the same t-shirt win every time? Did the "winning t-shirt" win every time? Does it matter what is worn on the outside or what is inside the t-shirt?

*** BIBLE *** The king may have been looking on the outside, yet what was God looking for?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for teaching us today that God you look on the inside. God show me how to be beautiful and strong on the inside *Pause* God thank you that you have a good plan for my life"

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Give each child strips of yellow chart paper and staple the strips together for them. Ask children make a crown and decorate. When everybody completes making it encourage them to wear their crowns and pretend to be kings and queens

QUEEN RISKS ALL FOR HER PEOPLE (4)

One Main Truth: God will place you in a special position created just for you to bring Him glory



1 GAME: Red Light Green Light (Win for Me or for the Team)!!!

1. Note: You need enough prizes for every player.
2. Show Players the starting line and finish line for the game.
3. Direct all the Players to stand in line behind the starting line.
4. Explain that when the Game Zone Leader shouts "Green Light," Players can run towards the finish line. When the Game Zone Leader shouts "Red Light," Players should stop immediately. Players who do not stop at "Red Light" return to the starting line to restart.
5. Have the Game Zone Leader alternate between shouting "Green Light" and "Red Light." The first Player to reach where the Game Zone Leader is standing wins.
6. Play several rounds.
7. Note: After a few rounds, announce that there will be a special prize for the winner, whoever crosses the line first.
The player who crosses the line first is given a choice – 1) get the original prize or, 2) allow everyone to be set free and also cross the line and everyone wins a prize.

Game Life Connection: Game Winner Chose to Help Everyone / Esther Chose to Help Everyone / You can Choose to Help Everyone



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Enemy's Plot: King Xerxes had a right

hand man named Haman. He gained favour with the king so much so that the royal officials were ordered by the king to bow to Haman when he passed. But Mordecai, Esther's uncle, refused to bow. This made Haman so angry that he began to plot to kill not only Mordecai, but also all of the Jews of the kingdom. That included Queen Esther, even though the king didn't know it yet. He manipulated the king to send out a decree that all Jews should be destroyed. Not knowing that his own queen was a Jew, the king passed a law that the Jews could be attacked.

Esther's Dare Step: Mordecai heard of the plan and went straight to Esther. He asked her to use her position to save the Jews. Esther might not have forgotten what had happened to queen Vasthi who had displeased King Xerxes yet she took a courageous step. So she urged all of the Jews to fast and pray for deliverance. Then Esther risked her own life. She bravely approached the king with a plan. Fortunately the King did not reject her. In fact he told her he would give her anything she requested. Esther could not ask him to change his own law (which would have killed the Jews) but she set forth a plan before him and leaves the discussion to him. The king granted her request to give Haman a banquet the next day.

Haman was thrilled to be invited to a banquet with the king but he was filled with rage when he noticed that Mordecai still refused to bow to him. Before coming to the banquet, Haman ordered a gallows (pole) built on which to hang Mordecai.

Finally in the banquet Esther shared the secret that she herself was a Jew. She begged the king to spare her people. The king came to know that Haman had built gallows to have Mordecai hanged. The king was furious with Haman and ordered that he be hanged on those gallows. Haman's pride and cruelty had led to his

own destruction and the brave, young Esther could save her people.

Celebration: There was great rejoicing, and an annual festival was celebrated in the honour of Esther's courage and the deliverance of the Jews. This festival was called Purim.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?" Esther 4:14

*** GAME *** That was a fun game! Tell me who won the last round of the game? (play comes forward) Ask that player if they chose to share with all the other players? (if "no" that was your choice, if "yes" that was so kind!) Let' discover the choice made by Queen Esther

*** BIBLE *** [What was Haman's plan concerning Mordecai and all the Jews? What did Mordecai ask queen Esther to do? What was queen Esther's response? What did Esther do for of her people? Did she choose to save herself or did she choose to save all her people?]

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, please use my life to help others and make a difference in the lives of others show me who needs your help *pause*. Please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional): David was a king after God's own Heart. Esther was a Queen who had the courage to obey God. Who is this God that they so faithfully served? Next week you will find out.

THE ONE AND ONLY ETERNAL GOD (5)

One Main Truth: God the creator the One True God is everywhere at all times.



1 GAME: Huff Puff Blow

Coach we suggest balloons, a small light leaf can also be use

1. Set up a table (or could be played on the ground. Divide into 4 teams each team with a balloon or a leaf.
2. Instruct players that they must blow the leaf towards the other end of the table or a spot on the table.
3. Each time a team gets to the end first that team gets a point.
4. The first team to get 5 points is the winner. Play as much as time allows. Explain: Boys and Girls we can not see wind, but we can see the results of the wind. Just like we can see the results of the wind blowing the leaves in the trees, but we can not actually see the wind.

Game Life Connection: We See the Results of the Wind / We see the Result of God Working / God Works in Your Life Even if You cannot See God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

GOD: As the school bell rings, all the children of the primary school take their place in the daily assembly. The hall is silent. The Principal greets the children with a smile and begins The Lord's Prayer, "Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name..." The children repeat after her. After the children sit on the red floor mat, she begins, "Children, do you know who our most Supreme Creator is? It is God! God made our universe and all its wonderful stars and planets.

Just like a mason lays brick upon brick to build a wall, so also God created the world in order." Nathan, a class 5 student, smiles proudly as he thinks to himself, *my father is a brick mason. But who is my heavenly Father? What is he like?*

He is Everlasting: "Children, where do stars begin and end?" The children remain silent. No one is allowed to speak during assembly! The Principal answers her own question.

"Just like the stars have no beginning and no end, GOD is ETERNAL and EVERLASTING!" (Romans 1:20)

He is Spirit: He doesn't have a human body. He is a spirit.

He is Almighty: "God is all-powerful." The Principal quotes, "It is by His word that the heavens, the earth, and all its creatures were made!" (Job 37:23)

He is All-knowing: "Your class teacher knows everything about the children in your class, doesn't she?" All the children nod in agreement. "God knows everything about you! He knows your past, your present, and your future!" Little Mayank, who had recently done something naughty, squirms and shifts in his seat. *God knows?*

He is Holy: "Being Holy is to be without sin. Yet we sin every day. We tell lies, we are naughty, we steal, we do wrong; but God never does any of these bad things." Rev 14:15 says God alone is holy. He is sinless.

He is Love: "Children, just like your parents love you, and you love your family, God loves you.

He is Merciful and Forgiving: God is a forgiving God. He is a merciful God."

Little Saanu thinks in her mind, *I have not done my homework today, I hope teacher is merciful and forgiving too.* She quickly says a prayer in her heart. *Dear God, please make teacher forget she gave us homework. Please God. I will be a good girl tomorrow.* I promise.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "From eternity to eternity I am God. No one can snatch anyone out of my hand. No one can undo what I have done." Isaiah 43:13

*** GAME *** What made the balloon move? [Or "What made the leave move?"] Wind? Air? What is wind what is air, I can not see wind or air, how can I know there is wind and air? (you can see the results, wind moves the balloon/leaf).

*** BIBLE *** Today we learned about the one true God that created everything we see. Name some things God the creator made? We can not see God, but we can see what He does in around the world and in the lives of people. God the one true God is in the past and here today and will be here tomorrow, tell me some places we can find God? (here, everywhere, my heart)

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God who created everything, God the one true god, God who created me, teach me to listen to you always to love you always, speak to me know *pause*. Please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional): Ask each child to pray a simple prayer to God. "God help me know who you are."

GOD CREATES ALL FOR A PURPOSE (6)

**One Main Truth: God Created Everything,
Including You, For a Purpose**



1 GAME: Cats and Mice

1. Announce that we are going to play a game we call "Cats and Mice".
2. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in.
3. Pick one Player to be a "Cat." Stand the "Cat" in the middle of the area.
4. The rest of the Players are "Mice." Have them stand on one side of the area.
5. The object of the game is for the "Mice" to get across the area without getting caught (tagged) by the "Cat."
6. Call out loudly "Cat, ready?" "Mice, ready?" "Go!"
7. The "Mice" run from one side to the other then stop at the other side.
8. If a "Mouse" is caught (tagged), then that Player also becomes a "Cat."
9. Now, with more "Cats" in the middle, call out "Cats, ready?" "Mice, ready?" "Go!"
10. "Mice" stop once they have crossed the area and wait until the leader calls out "Cats, ready?" "Mice, ready?" "Go!" This continues until only one "Mouse" is left.
11. The last Player left or to get caught is the first "Cat" for the next game.
The game will work perfectly every round.

Game Life Connection: In the Game Every Person has Purpose / God Created Everything for a Purpose / God Created You for a Purpose



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Ammu and Chinna: After a beautiful rain from the heavens, the earth was moist and soft. It smelled good! Chinna, all of four years, ran to play in the wet mud in front of his hut and started to make little chapathis. He was pleased. He hummed a hymn

his mother often sang; "O' Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the works thy hands have made... "

Chinna's mother, Ammu, joyously joined in and sat in the mud alongside him. She loved her son just as she loved God, for her son was created in His image. **Praise God!!** She began to make little mud balls telling Chinna how God created the heavens and the earth and all around them in just six days!

She said, "In the beginning there was nothing! There was darkness and emptiness." Chinna, who began to feel hungry thought, "Hmm... my tummy too feels dark and empty!" But he was a good boy, so he listened to the story of THE BEGINNING with great attention. His mother had told him this story many times before.

(Genesis Chapters 1 – 2)

Day One: God said, "Let there be light!" and there was light!

Then Chinna jumped in a puddle and yelled,

Day Two: God made the SKY and WATER!
THANK YOU GOD!

China's mother clapped her muddy hands with joy and hugged her son. He was so clever!

He proudly went on...

Day Three: LAND and SEA

Day Four: SUN, MOON, and STARS!

Day Five? He had forgotten. "What did He make on day five, Ammu?"

Day Five: "FISH AND BIRDS" she said, pretending to swim in water and fly in the air! Chinna loved when his mother was playful, but he knew that soon she would scrub him by the well to make him squeaky clean again. He hated bath time. The soap always burned his eyes. Rubbing his eyes with his muddy hands, he growled...

Day Six: ANIMALS!

He made ADAM and EVE too, Ammu added, quoting Gen 2:7, "The LORD God formed man from dust... breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being." Saying so, she blew the rainy mud off Chinna's eyes. She then tickled his ribs, and as Chinna giggled uncontrollably, she said, "God

made EVE, out of the rib of the man, Adam (Gen. 2:22).

Day Seven: "God rested." Chinna said calmly. He knew, the end of the story meant burning soapy eyes! "Ammu, God did not make soap. That is why I don't like it. I like everything else that God made and I will respect all his creations!" Saying so, he quickly slipped out of Ammu's arms and ran into the fields laughing.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "God, the LORD, created the heavens and stretched them out. He created the earth and everything in it. He gives breath to everyone, life to everyone who walks the earth." **Isaiah 42:5**

*** GAME *** What was the purpose or the role of the cat? What was the purpose or the role of the mice? Did the cat catch all the mice? Wow, a perfect game and everyone had a purpose.

*** BIBLE *** Who created everything in the beginning? Did God make any mistakes when He created the world? What is the purpose of rain? What is the purpose of sunshine? What did God think of His creation after He saw everything that He had made?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God who created everything, God the one true god, God who created me, thank you for creating me with a purpose, God begin to show me my purpose *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional): Name five birds, flowers, plants, animals. Draw and color them.

YOU HAVE A CHOICE (7)

One Main Truth: Sin, anything that is displeasing, breaks God's Perfect World



1 GAME: Cats and Rotten Rats

1. Announce that we are going to play a game we played last time "Cats and Mice".

Boys and girls, the instructions will sound the same because we played the exact same game last time.

2. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in.

3. Pick one Player to be a "Cat." Stand the "Cat" in the middle of the area.

4. The rest of the Players are "Mice;" have them stand on one side of the area.

5. The object of the game is for the "Mice" to get across the area without getting caught (tagged) by the "Cat."

6. Call out loudly "Cat, ready?" "Mice, ready?" "Go!"

7. The "Mice" run from one side to the other then stop at the other side.

8. If a "Mouse" is caught (tagged), then that Player also becomes a "Cat." Play until all players become cats.

9. Twist: Say, Boys and girls, now we are going to play a game just like "Cats and Mice," but this is called "Cats and Rotten Rats." Here is the twist, after one round the Rotten Rat that has been tagged can sneak back into the line of rats and stop being a cat.

10. "Rats" stop once they have crossed the area and wait until the leader calls out "Cats, ready?" "Rats, ready?" "Go!" This continues until only one "Rat" is left.

[Coach please note: the game does not work, the game breaks down, that's part of the experience. The game does not work because the Rotten Rats are taking a place that is not theirs to take.]

Game Life Connection: Breaking the Rules Broke Our Game / Sin Broke God's Perfect World / Sin in Your Life Hurts God's Plan for You



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Should I? Or should I not? Rohini had to walk to school every day. Her mother had told her to take the safer road with less stones so her black leather shoes wouldn't spoil. She did not listen to her mother. She instead took the rough short cut, kicking stones, singing songs and enjoying herself. Her friend Prashant accompanied her. Rohini loved to take this road, because along the way was a tree with the most alluring fruit; her favourite, the jungle imli (Tamarind Fruit)! They looked like tiny coiled snakes, pink and inviting, calling to her. But she could not reach them! Prashant loved throwing stones to get to the fruit as Rohini giggled and encouraged him. They both ate the fruit with great joy as they walked together to school. Being naughty was so much fun! Adam and Eve: God gave Adam and Eve the Garden of Eden; a beautiful place where they could live together peacefully. He gave them many fruit trees but he told them not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Sounds much like Rohini and Prashant, doesn't it? Let's find out what happens to those who make the wrong choice.

Temptation and the Fall of Man: One day, Satan, disguised as a serpent, lured Eve to eat the forbidden fruit! He told her she would be like God after eating the fruit!

Giving in to temptation, she took a bite of the beautiful fruit and offered a bite to Adam. This act separated them from God! They had disobeyed Him! Their lives were changed forever!

Punishment for Disobedience: Both Rohini and Prashant were punished by their parents for their disobedience. They were not permitted to walk together again! What a heavy price to pay! It was sad. Adam and Eve too were sent away from Eden! They were sent into a world where sin and suffering ruled.

It was sad. Listen to the good in you. Do not give into temptation. Listen to the voice of God. Do not disobey.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." **Genesis 3:15**

*** GAME *** What broke the game at the end? Was the Cat able to tag all the "Rotten Rats?" Were all the "Rotten Rats" turned into Cats? Why not? Did the game work perfectly like it did at the beginning? Why not? (the rules were broken)

*** BIBLE *** How many rules did God give Adam and Eve? (one) What was the one rule to Adam and Eve? What did man and woman do? What happened after they disobeyed?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God who created everything, God the one true god, God who created me, help not break your rules, not to sin against you, not to do anything that displeases you. Show me my sins *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional): Play the "Heaven and Hell" game. Let all the children stand in a circle or in a row. The leader will shout "Heaven" or "Hell" loudly. The children must jump forward when they hear the word heaven, and jump back when they hear the word hell. Those who jump in the wrong direction are eliminated and the single remaining child is the winner! Give the child a chocolate!

HEART MOTIVATION (8)

One Main Truth: Good motivations please God bad motivations displease God



1 GAME: Gator Gorge

1. Divide the Players into two teams behind the starting line.
2. Make the finish line only half a meter in front of the starting line.
3. Explain to the Players the small space between the two lines is “Gator Gorge” and Players must fully jump over the finish line to make it safely across. Any Player that does not fully make the jump is out and must sit down well behind the starting line off to the side.
4. After each successful jump, have the Players go back to the starting line and then move the finish line 25 centimeters further away to make “Gator Gorge” wider. Repeat this step until the end.
5. The winning team is the one with the last 3 team members making the jump.

Game Life Connection: 100% Obedience Only / Cain's Wrong Motivation Displeased God / Wrong Motivations Displease God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Nammu and his Bad Intentions: Nammu was a very clever boy. His parents raised him in a strict manner. They did not buy him many toys, or things that gave him pleasure. Soon, Nammu began to crave for toys that other children had. He wanted the attention and friends these toys and showy things would bring him. He craved to be popular.

One day, Nammu went crying to a man on the street and said, “Uncle, I have lost the bus money my mother has given me. Can you please give me five rupees? Please, uncle.” The man felt sorry for Nammu who was well dressed in his smart school uniform. He was carrying his books and water bottle. The man believed Nammu's story and gave him the money, saying, “Go home safely my boy, and be careful with your money next time!” Nammu took the money and ran straight to the toy cart and bought himself a toy!

Nobody could catch Nammu at a lie. He had become so good at it! He was almost like a magician! Soon, he began to see that he could create trouble between friends so he could gain from their fight. He became manipulative. Over time, this became his nature and personality.

God is Watching Us: Nammu was proud that was not caught! But God knew the motives behind his deceitful actions! Any motivation that comes from our sinful selfishness is not pleasing to God (Rom. 8:8).

Cain and Abel: The first family and its duties: After Adam and Eve were driven out of the Garden of Eden, because of their disobedience, they faced many hardships. They had two sons, Cain and Abel. Cain was a farmer. Abel was a shepherd. Adam and Eve taught their children that they had to sacrifice something to God to please Him, and ask for forgiveness for any sin they may have knowingly or unknowingly committed.

Abel brought a firstborn lamb. God was happy with Abel's gift, because he was sincere and did what was right before God. Abel had faith, a good heart, and the right attitude. He trusted God that if he gave his best, the firstborn lamb that God would supply more lambs.

But Cain brought some of the fruits and vegetables he had grown. They were not his first fruits, as they were at the end of the harvest. God knew that Cain's gift was not given in faith so he rejected his offering. The problem with Cain was not his action, but his motive.

Cain was angry that God did not accept his offering while he accepted Abel's sacrifice. Out of jealousy and anger, Cain murdered his brother Abel! Oh no! The first murder has been committed! Hatred makes people do terrible things!

We must do things with the right motive to please God. He sees our hearts as they are. He knows why we do what we do. We must ensure our heart and attitude is right with God.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: “The sacrifice of an evil person is detestable, especially when it is offered with wrong motives.” (Prov. 21:27)

*** GAME *** Was the game easy at first? Why way it more challenging at the end? In the game today what happened if you did not cross the all the way, 100%? (the gator would grab my toe and I would lose the game).

*** BIBLE *** Did Able want to please and obey God? (yes) Did Cain want to please and obey God? (no) We know Cain did not please God, because God said “If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?” Genesis 4:7.

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: “God help me to listen to you through your Holy Word, help to please you God, show me how I can please you God *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth.”

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Teach the children to share. Ask them to bring any one item for a classmate.

LIFESAVER (9)

One Main Truth: Warnings help us avoid danger only if we listen and obey



1 GAME: Shipwreck

1. Announce that we are going to play a game we call "Shipwreck" and that this game takes place on an imaginary ship. As sailors, they will be expected to do a lot of running around following the "Captain's" orders.
2. Point out the designated four areas of the imaginary ship to the Players.
 - The FRONT of the ship is called the "BOW"
 - The BACK of the ship is the "AFT"
 - The LEFT side of the ship is the "PORT"
 - The RIGHT side of the ship is the "STARBOARD"
3. Explain: For example, if they hear the "Captain" call out "Aft," they all need to run to the "Aft." And if they hear the "Captain" call out "Righteousness," they must run and hug the "Captain." 5. For any area if they are the last 2 players to arrive they are out and must go sit down outside the ship.
4. The "Captain" of the ship is the Game Zone Leader.

Game Life Connection: You were Warned in the Game / God Warned the People through Noah / God Warns You through the Bible



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Movie Day: Exams are over and the summer holidays have begun! No school for one month! Hurray! On Saturday, Amma and Pappa decide to take the children for a movie. Excitement fills the air. At security, Amma's bag is checked and Pappa's whole body is scanned. "Check my pockets" says young Tanay. The security guard pats his head and smiles. Pretty Pinku tugs at the security aunty's

dupatta and says, "I don't have a gun or a bomb, see." She giggles and runs along to her mother's side.

Noah and the Ark: The film they are about to watch is called Noah. "It has many animals in it" says Amma. "When the world became wicked, God decided to send a flood! He told Noah to build a big boat called an Ark, and asked him to fill the boat with his family and a pair of each animal too! Then the BIG flood came and washed away all the sinners, and the world began again!"

God told Noah, *"The end of all flesh has come... for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth"* (Gen. 6:13).

The movie begins. As the children and parents watch, Amma whispers the story in brief. "See how bad everyone has become. Look at Noah. He is still following God's instruction. Praise God!" There are no guns or bombs in the movie, the children observe. How was it so bad? Pappa explains, "People were selfish, corrupt, and did not care about God at all. Therefore God decided to destroy everything that was on the face the earth for their wickedness and sin."

During the interval Pappa goes to bring popcorn and Amma and the children sit chatting about the movie. Then Pinku thoughtfully asks her mother, "Amma, cousin Payal is selfish. She won't let me borrow her pink dress. And in school the teacher says that we must be careful because there are many wicked people in the world. Is it true, Amma? Will God destroy the world again?" Amma tells the children to be quiet. Tanay tells his mother, "Amma, I will become a soldier and fight all the wicked people!" Amma laughs as Pappa returns with the popcorn.

In the second part of the film the animals walk into the Ark in pairs! Tigers, lions, and even monkeys! And then, the BIG flood comes!

After 150 days when the land was dry, the Ark settled on Mount Ararat. Noah and his family came out and

thanked God by offering a sacrifice. In response, God made a new promise not to destroy life again with a flood. A rainbow appears in the sky as a sign of His new covenant.

The movie comes to an end. As the family walks out of the theatre, the sleepy children hold their parents' hands. Amma and Pappa talk to each other. "Our world is so scary sometimes" says Amma. Pappa says, "We must protect our children and help them understand that they must be obedient to God and His word. We must set a good example for them."



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction." Psalm 1:16

*** GAME *** Someone describe the game played today? What was the only safe place to run? (when the Captain called out Righteousness)

*** BIBLE *** What was God's warning through Noah to the people (be righteous). How many people listened to God's warnings through Noah?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for giving us warnings, Jesus thank you for giving us ways to live right lives, righteous, god how do you want me to live right? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Divide the children into pairs. Play animal charades. The teams will take turns imitating sounds of different animals and birds. The rest of the children must guess which animal they are acting like.

STEP OF FAITH (10)

One Main Truth: God alone is worthy of our trust & confidence



1. GAME: Storm the Castle

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in. There is an outer square where the four teams will line up on and an inner square where the "Castle" is. Inside the castle are small objects for the Players to retrieve.
2. Divide the Players into four teams placing each team on each of the four sides of the outer square.
3. Promise: Each of you will win the game. The four teams will be winners.
4. Once the Players have been divided into teams assign each Player a number. Each team should have a one, a two, a three, and so on.
5. Place four objects in the middle of the inner square. Explain that when the Game Zone Leader shouts "Number ones (or ones and threes) Storm the Castle" the Players with that number can run to get only one object from the middle or wait until the guards are distracted to do so.
6. Choose 6 Players to be "Castle" guards. If a guard tags a player before they pick up an object, the player is out.
7. Note: Each round two guards are removed.
8. Play several more rounds.
9. The last round, there are no guards and every team wins the game. The promise is fulfilled.

Game Life Connection: Confidence in the Game / Abram had Confidence in God / You can have Confidence in God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Father and Son: Early one morning, before

going to school, young Rohan, who was lovingly called Raja Beta by his parents, ran out of the bathroom after his bath. His mother was chasing him. They were both laughing. Raja's father sat sipping a hot cup of chai. It would soon be family prayer time before each one sets out for the day. Mother was a school teacher and father worked in a bank. Little Raja went to his father to play as he did every day. They had a little game of TRUST. Raja would turn his back to his father, close his eyes, and fall backwards! His father would catch him just before he hit the ground! Raja had complete FAITH that his father would catch him and not let him get hurt.

Abraham: After the big flood, with God's blessings, Noah's family grew. He had many grandchildren and great-grandchildren too! Abram was the descendent of Noah. God selected Abram to be a channel of blessing to all the nations. God called Abram, to leave his hometown in the land of Ur of the Chaldeans with his wife Sarai to go to an unknown place that He would show him. By FAITH alone, Abram along with his wife Sarai, left all his relatives and friends and followed God's command. God led Abram to a land called Canaan. He promised him that he would be the father of many nations.

God keeps his promise: One night, at the age of 100, God blessed Abram with a son, whom he named Isaac. God spoke with Abram, and lovingly renamed him Abraham, meaning father of many, and he called Sarai, Sarah, meaning princess.

The test of faith: One day God asked Abraham to offer his only son Isaac to Him as a sacrifice! Abraham set out to obey God! Without questioning God, with FAITH and OBEDIENCE, he took his son to mount Moriah. "Where is the animal to be sacrificed?" the puzzled son asked his father. Abraham answered that God would provide an animal for them. After reaching Moriah, he placed Isaac on the altar. Isaac realized that he was the offering for the Lord! Isaac was obedient and submissive to his father to the point of death. God

was pleased with Abraham's obedience and willingness to offer his most precious possession. An angel stopped Abraham just in time from sacrificing Isaac, and God provided a ram instead for burnt offering. Praise God!

According to the Bible, faith is belief in the One True God without actually seeing Him.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

**Memory Verse: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."
Hebrews 11:1**

*** GAME *** What was the promise made during the game? Did you believe that would happen? Was it easy or hard to get into the castle when the guards were there? What did you think at the beginning when you weren't winning? Did you think you would win the game? How did you feel at the end when all of you won the game?

*** BIBLE *** What were the promises God made to Abraham? Was it easy or hard to believe the promises? Did Abraham believe God? Did Abraham's faith and confided in God allow him to obey? How did Abraham obey God? Did God fulfill His promises?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for giving us promises, God thank you always answering your promises even if it takes a long time to fulfill, answer the promise. What is one promise you want me to believe? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Divide the class into two groups. Ask for two volunteers from each team. Blindfold the volunteers. Create an obstacle course using everyday items. Let the rest of the class navigate the blindfolded person through the obstacle course with only vocal instructions. At the end of the game, talk about how this is the type of faith God requires when a person trusts his life to God.

DECEIVER TO ACHIEVER (11)

One Main Truth: Seek Forgiveness and Restoration after Sin



1 GAME: Red Light Green Light

1. Show Players the starting line and finish line for the game.
2. Direct all the Players to stand in line behind the starting line.
3. Explain that when the Game Zone Leader shouts "Green Light," Players can run towards the finish line. When the Game Zone Leader shouts "Red Light," Players should stop immediately. Players who do not stop at "Red Light" must "1. Stop, 2. Turn Around, 3. Go Back, 4. Start Over the Right Way."
4. Have the Game Zone Leader alternate between shouting "Green Light" and "Red Light." The first Player to reach where the Game Zone Leader is standing wins.
5. Play more rounds as time allows.

Game Life Connection: You had to Turn Around & Start Over in the Game / Jacob Needed to Turn & Repent / You Need to Turn & Repent when You Sin

2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth



Sonal and Mishal: Sunday had arrived! Identical twins Sonal and Mishal, who were ten years old, were dropped off at Sunday School by their parents who went to church. The twins enjoyed meeting their friends and playing with them. They loved their new teacher, Tubby Akka. She was so nice! They loved each other too!

Esau and Jacob: After morning prayer, Tubby Akka said, "Children, would you like to hear the story of Esau and Jacob?" The children replied loudly, "Yes, Akka!" Bible stories always have a lesson to teach!

Tubby Akka began the story. "Esau and Jacob were twins. Their mother was Rachel. Their father was Isaac. The twins were very different from each other, unlike our Sonal and Mishal." Everybody looked at the twins. It was very difficult to tell them apart. They were like Xerox copies! The twins felt excited that everyone in class was looking at them. "Esau, the older boy was rugged and hairy." continued Tubby Akka. "Jacob was fair and smooth skinned. Esau liked to hunt. Jacob liked to look after sheep. They were so different!"

"Children, what do you do when you are very hungry?" "We eat!" replied the children. "If I ask you to do 10 frog jumps for your food, would you?" "Yes, Akka!" The children laughed and began to jump around the class. Akka promised them a toffee each after class. She continued her story. "One day, Esau went hunting and came home very hungry. Jacob was making stew at home." Esau asked Jacob for a bowl of stew. Esau and Jacob used to fight a lot." That's sad, isn't it? They were brothers! "Since Esau was older, he had been given the birthright to his father's property. Jacob asked Esau for his birthright in exchange for a bowl of stew! Esau agreed because he was so hungry.!" Jacob had cheated Esau. "Esau got cheated once again when Jacob took his father's blessings pretending to be Esau!" So cunning and greedy! Esau was cheated for the second time by his twin brother! Sonal and Mishal looked at each other in shock. They would never cheat each other! "After cheating Esau, Jacob ran away from his brother and lived for 20 years in Haran. He felt guilty after these years and wanted to say sorry to his brother." Jacob realized that forgiveness and blessing could only come from God. He prayed and begged for forgiveness. God gave him a new name, "Israel" which means "he who wrestles with God." "Esau had a kind heart. He loved and forgave his brother." Tubby Akka noticed that the class had gone silent. All the children were thoughtful. She asked them these questions. Would you deceive your brother or your friend? Would you feel bad for

doing wrong? Would you apologize? Would you seek God's forgiveness? Would you forgive someone who has wronged you?

"Children, in today's world, we all face temptation to cheat. But we need fight that temptation. And when someone cheats us, we must be willing to forgive him or her.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4: 32

*** GAME *** Players what did you have to do if you made a mistake and were still running when the game leader called out "Red Light?" ("1. Stop, 2. Turn Around, 3. Go Back, 4. Start Over the Right Way.")

*** BIBLE *** What does it mean to "repent?" ("1. Stop, 2. Turn Around, 3. Go Back, 4. Do Right) What did Jacob do in order to receive his father's blessing?

*** LIFE *:** Repeat after me: "God help me to know when I sin, Jesus help me to: 1. Stop, 2. Turn Around, 3. Go Back, 4. Start Over the Right Way. God show me know where I need to repent *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Ask children to share examples of how they could ask someone for forgiveness. Example: "I was wrong, will you forgive me? Make each child come forward and seek forgiveness and so forgive anyone who they believe has wronged them.

THE DREAMER (12)

One Main Truth: God reveal's his plans,
yet you must persevere



1 GAME: Keep Running

1. If you have more than 20 children divide into multiple groups of 20. Have children hold hands and move outward until there is a large circle. Have children let go of hands and turn the face the back of the child to their right. (all children will be facing the back of the child to their right).

2. Explain to the children they will run around this large circle try to tag the player's back in front of them.

3. When a player is tagged they are out and must move off to the side.

4. Keep playing until there are only 4 players left and declare them the winners

5. [Note: the longer the race goes the more tired the players will become and it will become more challenging to try to tag the players back because there are fewer players in the large circle].

Game Life Connection: You had to Persevere in the Game / Joseph Received a Dream Yet had to Persevere / God has a Special Plan for You Yet You Must Persevere



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Dreamer: Jacob had twelve sons. Joseph was eleventh. He was a good boy. He loved God. He used to get many strange and interesting dreams. Listen to this dream he had: "I had another dream! This time, the sun, moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to

me." Do you get strange dreams that you can't understand? Joseph could understand his dreams and this made his brothers angry and hateful.

Trust in God - Keep the faith: One day Jacob sent Joseph to see how his brothers. The angry and jealous brothers beat him and stole his favourite coat of many colours and rich ornaments. They threw him into a pit and sold him to Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. The Ishmaelites took him to Egypt and sold him as a slave to an Egyptian officer named Potiphar. Joseph was made in-charge of Potiphar's house but Potiphar's wife falsely accused him he went to prison. He was such a good leader that eventually he was helping to lead the prison. There he interpreted two prisoners' dreams which came true. The king Pharaoh, had dreams that no one could understand so he called Joseph (Gen. 41). Joseph said God revealed the dreams to the king, which sent a message of the near future! Imagine if you had dreams about your future? Would you like to know your future? Would you be scared?

He explained to the Pharaoh that there would be seven years of prosperity followed by seven years of severe famine. Pleased with Joseph, the king made him the governor of Egypt to minister in the administration of his kingdom.

After seven years of abundant crops the famine began. Severe famine spread everywhere, and in Canaan Isaac's family ran out of food. Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to buy food grains. They had to bow down before the governor, Joseph.

Joseph's childhood dream had come true!

God brings people up when they are holy and maintain the right relationship with Him.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." Genesis 50:20

*** GAME *** Players raise your hand if you were in the last four in the running game, are you tired? Tell me was the race more challenging at the beginning or the end (at the beginning it was easy to get tagged, at the end it was more challenging to try to tag someone).

*** BIBLE *** What was the dream God gave to Joseph? Wow! That is an amazing dream, did the dream come true the next day? No? what were some of the challenges Joseph went through? How did Joseph persevere and endure all the challenges?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God help me persevere, to endure the challenges in my life. Holy Spirit please begin to show me your call your vision for my life *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Create a cardboard drawing of a large coat. Ask them to glue long strips of colourful cloth or pieces of colour paper on it. Write names or phrases from today's lesson onto those strips of colour! Divide the children into two or more groups and ask them to write down some positive and negative finding from Joseph and his brothers' character.

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE (13)

One Main Truth: God has a plan for each life and at the right time God will work



1 GAME: WHAT TIME IS IT

1. Have two Coaches stand side-by-side at the finish line facing away from the Players.
2. Have the Players line up along the starting line shoulder to shoulder and say "What time is it?"
3. The Coach on the right should yell a time like "5 o'clock."
4. When the Players hear this they should take 5 steps forward and stop.
5. The Players should continue saying, "What time is it?" and the Coach on the right should continue to answer with a new time each round.
6. Important: About every third time, the Coach on the left side should shout, "It is time to go to jail!" That Coach then turns around and chases the Players back to the starting line. If that Coach tags a Player, that Player has to sit out for one round.
7. Important: The only time the Players will cross the finish line is when the Coach on the right calls out "It is time to come home!" This means all the Players can safely run to the finish line.

Game Life Connection: At the Right Time Everyone Won the Game / God Worked At the Right Time in the Life of Moses / God will Work at the Right Time in Your Life



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

The descendants of Jacob became a huge nation and they were known as "the Israelites." They were God's chosen people to bless the world.

Moses: Today, let us learn about the birth of Moses. Moses was born a long time ago in Egypt. He was a descendant of Jacob. He was not an Egyptian. He was an Israelite. At that time the Pharaoh of Egypt gave an order that every new born baby boy was to be thrown into the River Nile and killed. Can you imagine the sadness the parents felt when a baby boy was born? This is a story about how God can protect His own people even during such evil times.

During this time, a God-fearing Hebrew family, Amram and Jochebed had their third child, a baby boy, along with their two children Aaron and Miriam. To save their son, Jochebed hid the baby for three months. When the boy grew bigger and they were unable to hide him any longer, the mother finally put the baby in a reed basket, and left him on the edge of the Nile River. Hiding behind some reeds, his sister Miriam carefully watched the basket.

The Pharaoh's daughter came with her maids to the Nile River for a bath. She saw the reed basket and sent one of her maids to bring it to her. When they opened it, they found a cute baby boy inside! The princess felt kind towards him and she wanted to adopt him. She named him Moses – meaning 'drawn out of water.' The little boy Moses had a miraculous escape from death! Moses' sister Miriam rushed to the Egyptian princess, as if by accident and offered to bring a Hebrew woman to look after the baby. The Princess liked the idea. Miriam cleverly brought Jochebed, to nurse the baby for the Egyptian princess! The mother and son would be together again! Moses grew up as an Egyptian Prince in the palace where his mother taught him to love the true God and made him aware of the sadness of Hebrew people. Moses became a learned man in the palace but his heart was for his people who were in slavery.

One day, Moses saw an Egyptian, brutally beating a Hebrew slave to death. Shocked, he fought and killed the Egyptian. When King Pharaoh came to know, he was very angry. Moses fled Egypt and escaped to the land of Midian, a neighbouring place, where he spent 40 years as a shepherd.

God had a great plan for Moses. Nothing that happened in his life was by accident. Everything was planned by God! Later Moses became the greatest leader of Israelites who led them out of Egyptian slavery.

From today's lesson let us remember all the time that God can do miracles in our lives because He has a plan for each one of us. God has a purpose for each one of us.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. They are plans for good and not for disaster." Jeremiah 29:11

*** GAME *** In the game what happened when the coach called out "its time to go to jail"? What happened when the other called out "its time to come home"? Raise your hand if you made it home safe?" (all hands should be raised up as all children were able to come home safe)

*** BIBLE *** Moses was protected many times in his life, what was the first time Moses was protected? (as a baby). When Moses disobeyed God by killing a man, what did God do with Moses? (sent him to the wilderness) What time did God call Moses to go back and set his people free? (after 40 years)

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God help remind you have a plan for my life, Holy Spirit remind me you will work in my life at the right time. God show me the plan you have for my life *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Cut out figures of reeds from green construction paper. Write the memory verse on it. Have the children practice the verse. Remind them that Moses' sister watched over him until the Pharaoh's daughter found him

BE READY (14)

One Main Truth: God prepared Moses to Serve



1 GAME: Grab the Rock

1. Divide everyone into two teams. Each team stands shoulder-to-shoulder facing the center.
2. Give each player a number [each group should have a one, a two, a three, making sure each child has a number].
3. Explain that when children hear their number called they will run to the center and try to pick up the "Rock." Place the "Rock" in the center of the playing area.
4. [Important: explain players now you must really be ready and pay attention]. Add an extra challenge by calling two numbers, example #3 and #5 (so four players will rush in to grab the rock).

Game Life Connection: Players Needed to be Ready to Go / God through Moses told the People to be Ready to Go / You Need to Listen to God and be Ready to Go



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Team Captain: The school football team was not playing well. They needed more practice. The coach decided that this year the school team would win the inter-school competition. He selected a boy named Victor as the new captain. Victor was from another school and had learned football well. He was talented and hard working. He was a good leader.

After a lot of practice on the football field, and after losing many matches, the team grew stronger and

more experienced. Victor kept building his team's spirit under the guidance of their coach. They were all so happy and proud the day they won the inter-school competition!! Victor had led the team to victory! The coach was overjoyed!

Moses the Leader: Remember Moses left Egypt and travelled to Midian? One day he was resting near a well. Some bad men were teasing the daughters of a Midian priest and did not allow them to draw water. Moses stood up and began to help the girls by filling water in their pots. The girls led Moses to their father, Jethro. Jethro thanked Moses for his help. He later gave him one of his daughters name Zipporah as a wife.

The Burning Bush: Forty years went by! One day as he was watching over his flock on Mt. Sinai, Moses saw a strange thing happen. He saw a burning bush. Although he was afraid, Moses went closer. He heard a voice coming out from the burning bush, "Moses go back to Egypt and tell Pharaoh to set My people free." Moses asked, "Who are you?" The voice declared, "Tell the people, "I AM THAT I AM. My presence will be with you and you will see the sign of miracles."

The ten plagues: When the Pharaoh refused to let the slaves go, God was angry. He sent ten plagues one after the other upon the people of Egypt. It was terrible!! The Plague of Blood, Frogs, Gnats, Flies, Livestock, Boils, Hails, Locusts, and Darkness came upon the people. But, the Pharaoh was stubborn. He did not change his mind!

Killing of the firstborn: Moses warned the Pharaoh, and said that God will send the Tenth Plague at midnight. Before God sent the tenth plague, He asked every Israelite to paint their doorposts with lamb's blood, so the angel of death will see the lamb's blood on their door posts and it

will pass over them, so their first born would be saved. At the midnight the angel of death passed through and the entire first born of Egyptian children and animals died. The Pharaoh asked the Israelites to leave Egypt immediately!

God has chosen each one of us to set ourselves and others free from the bondage of sin, and bear witness for Him.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "And God said 'I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you.'" Exodus 3:12a

*** GAME *** Players in the game had to be ready to go, raise your hand if you were one that was able to grab the rock. How did you stay ready to hear your number called? What would happen if you were not ready when you were called to go?

*** BIBLE *** God prepared Moses for 40 years in the wilderness, how did God speak to Moses? God told the people to be ready to go, they sacrificed a lamb and were told to be ready to go, those that were not ready did would not escape from slavery. Were the people ready to go?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for preparing me for the work you are calling me to, Holy Spirit show me what I need to do to be ready when you call *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Let the children memorize all the ten plagues that God sent upon Egyptians. Let them make noises to represent each of these plagues. How would they react to each plague? Have them enact each one.

40 YEARS OF WANDERING (15)

One Main Truth: Trust God even when his answer does not come for long time



1 GAME: Trust Run

1. Players stand in two different lines facing each other – Close enough to touch the other's outstretched arms. One player at a time will run from the front of the line to the end, between the outstretched arms)
2. Sounds easy? The player had to run blind folded (three socks tied together, or simply is told to close their eyes.)
3. **Note: One coach stands at the end of the line to stop the players when they finish. Important: It is the coaches' responsibility for the safety of the players.**
4. **Important: Make sure the players standing in line understand that if the player runs off course they need to gently guide them back with their hands into the line.**
5. One player at a time is chosen to run between the two lines from start to finish.

Game Life Connection: The Game Breaks Without Trust / Israel Stopped Trusting God / We Must Trust God Even if it is for a Long Long Time



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Being a teenager: Rohit was going to be a teenager! It was so exciting! He studied well, was good at sports, played the piano, and always dressed well. He'd attend church with his parents and grandparents and politely greet all elders and friends. He was blessed. This was what the world saw of Sunil. But thirteen year old Sunil

was so confused inside! He knew the story of Moses very well. He had learned how the Israelites were free at last; how the Pharaoh realised God's power and set His people free to go and worship Him. The freed Israelites started their journey joyfully, with their flocks and herds from Egypt to the Promised Land. God guided them during the day with a pillar of cloud and provided them light in the night through a pillar of fire. But Sunil was never guided by any pillar! He wondered why God did not show him any signs.

The parting of the Red Sea: When Moses and his people were being chased by the Pharaoh's soldiers, God parted the Red Sea to let them go to the other side! What a miracle! As soon as the last Israelite crossed over, the sea closed and all the soldiers were drowned!

When Sunil was being chased by rowdies in School, he ran in fear! God did not come to save him! There was no miraculous escape. Sunil got beaten every time. He got teased for being a good boy! Sunil was so hurt and confused. "Why, God? Why do you never come to rescue me?"

Israelites disbelief makes the journey longer: In spite of miracles the people of Israel kept complaining. God gave them food in the form of manna from the sky, quails for meat, and water from the rock! Because of their lack of faith in God, the two weeks journey took forty long years, before they finally reached Canaan - the Promised Land.

Soldier: Teenage years felt like forty long years to Rohit! It was a very difficult time filled with doubt, anger, and confusion. By the time Rohit was twenty he got into the Army. The training was very tough. He would often want to give up but he kept the faith. He soon became a Captain. That was when he realised

that God had put him through those difficult times as a teenager to make him tough! He realised that the pillars of strength that stood by him day and night, leading the way and protecting him, were his parents! This was the miracle in Rohit's life! Praise God! This lesson teaches that God wants His children to trust Him at all times as He is with us all along.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "The Lord your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He has watched over your journey through this vast wilderness. These forty years the Lord your God has been with you, and you have not lacked anything. Deuteronomy 2:7"

*** GAME *** What was it like to run blindfolded? Did you trust the other players to guide you well? Was it easy to run across the room?

*** BIBLE *** What was the command God gave to the Israelites? Why did the Israelites wander for 40 years in the desert? What would have happened had the Israelites obeyed the Lord? What does God want of His people? Obedience

*** LIFE *** Pray out loud and repeat after me: "Dear God, please help me to never rebel against the Lord our God. Please give me courage to obey and share this truth. Amen."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Prepare questions from the lesson and make all the children stand in a line. Ask one question after the other and whoever answers correctly moves one step forward towards the end line. Whoever reaches the end line will be the winner.

TEN COMMANDMENTS (16)

One Main Truth: God's Law reveals God is holy and righteous and God expects His Children to Listen & Obey



1 GAME: The Perfect Circle

1. Divide the children for this game. If you have more than ten children, break out into several groups of ten.
2. **Note: This will be a difficult game to play with the children. You need to be very patient telling them the instructions and helping them understand it correctly.**
3. Have all 10 players stand in a circle, facing inward.
4. Tell everyone to reach their right arm towards the center and grab someone else's right hand. Make sure no one grabs the hand of the person right next to them.
5. Next, have everyone reach their left arm in and grab someone else's left hand. Again, make sure it's not the person right next to them.
6. Now, the fun begins! The kids need to work together to untangle the human knot without letting go of any hands. The goal is to end up in a perfect circle again. They can go over or under each other's arms, or through legs if needed! Do not let go of hands.
7. **Note: You may need to guide the children to untangle.**
8. The following rounds make it a contest to see which team can unknot the fastest.

Game Life Connection: Players Needed to Listen and Obey the Game Rules / Israel Needed to Listen and Obey God's Commands / You Need to Listen and Obey God's Commands



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Rules: Mother shouts, "Wake up! Pack your books! Eat properly." The instructions and rules are endless! Can you imagine life without

rules, a school without a principal, or a class without lessons? There would be chaos! We all have rules at home, at school, or even for games. Rules teach us how to behave. Rules keep us safe. Rules help us to lead disciplined lives.

Through Moses, God gave the Israelites some basic rules called the Ten Commandments. These are considered to be God's moral standards for how His people should live.

Ten Commandments for ten fingers!

PUT GOD FIRST - God created us and He alone deserves our worship.

WORSHIP ONLY GOD, NOT IMAGES - All that we have in this world is given by God.

USE GOD'S NAME WITH RESPECT - God is HOLY.

REMEMBER GOD'S SABBATH - Spend time with God on the seventh day in praising and worshipping Him.

RESPECT YOUR PARENTS - It is our responsibility to obey and honour our parents.

DON'T HURT OTHERS - God created each one of us in His own image and therefore we have no right to kill or hurt others.

BE FAITHFUL TO YOUR HUSBAND OR WIFE - In our families, we are responsible to each other and should never cheat them.

DON'T STEAL - We should work hard and earn for ourselves; never steal other's things.

DON'T TELL LIES - God dislikes liars. God is truthful and expects His children to be truthful.

DON'T BE JEALOUS OF OTHERS - We should be happy with what we have and should not feel jealous at others.

The first four commandments relate to our relationship with God. The last six commandments deal with our relationship with one another. They tell us that God's will for us is to love other people with Godly love.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Listen to all the laws that I am giving you today. Learn them and be sure that you obey them." Deuteronomy 5:1

*** GAME *** What did you think at the beginning when you were given the instructions? Were the rules easy to follow? Were you able to keep holding hands and make a circle?

*** BIBLE *** Why did God give us the Ten Commandments? (It is important for children to understand God's rules are to protect us, often children think God wants to keep us from having fun).

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for giving us commands to keep us safe, Jesus strengthen me to obey God what command do I need to obey this week *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Make a list of rules that people follow at school, at work, on the road, while driving, or even while eating. Encourage the children to learn the Ten Commandments and prepare bookmarks.

GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES (17)

One Main Truth: God Gives the Israelites their Promised Land



1 GAME: Capture the Flag

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in. Point out the center line that divides the field in half, one half for "Team 1" and the other for "Team 2." Then point out that each team has a "Flag" hiding in one of the back corner of their side of the field and in the other back corner is their "Jail."
2. Explain that each team's goal is to be the first team to grab the "Flag" and bring it back to their side.
3. Then explain that once a Player crosses the center line into the other team's land the other team can tag them and send them to their team's "Jail." They must remain in "Jail" until a fellow teammate frees them by tagging them out. After they are released, they are free to run back to their side without getting tagged. If a Player is tagged while carrying the "Flag," they must drop the "Flag" where they were tagged and go to "Jail."
4. Begin the game. Allow it to continue until one team brings the "Flag" back to their side.

Game Life Connection: In the Game Players Capture a Land / God gives Israel the Land He Promised / God will Give You What He Promises



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Spy versus Spy, for the Land of Milk and Honey: We all love a spy story, don't we? Spies find out secrets and report them. Can you name a famous spy? Here is an interesting

spy story from the time of Moses! You can enact it!

God: "Moses, send twelve spies to explore the Promised Land."

Moses: " Yes, God. I will." "Joshua, Caleb, and ten others, go! Return with a report."

Joshua and Caleb: "We have seen and returned. The land is good, Moses. It is the land of milk and honey! Here are some grapes from there."

Ten other spies: "We have seen and returned. The land is bad, Moses. It is dry. The people who live there are like giants! We look like grasshoppers in front of them! "*Two different reports! What should Moses do?* Rebellion and distrust spread amongst the Israelites against Moses and God! Moses died on top of Mount Nebo at the age of 120 years! He did not go to the Promised Land.

God: "Joshua, you will now lead the Israelites in conquering the Promised Land.

Joshua: "Yes, God. I will send two spies into the walled city of Jericho."

Rahab (who lived within the city wall): "I will give shelter to you spies. Promise me that you will keep me and my family safe when you conquer Jericho."

Joshua: (The Conquest of the Promised Land): "It is now time to conquer the Promised Land! Priests! Take the Ark of the Covenant and pass on ahead of the people, and cross the Jordan River." The waters opened and made way for the people to cross! Another miracle! Praise God!

God: "Joshua, march around the Jericho city walls once every day for six days. On the seventh day, march around seven times. At the seventh round blow the trumpets with the priests and shout mightily!"

They obeyed. The wall of Jericho completely came tumbling down! The Israelites conquered the city! *Our God is absolutely trustworthy! He is a promise keeping God!* We have many wonderful

promises in the Bible but only those who trust and obey Him will claim it. For those who keep obeying God the promises in the Bible will become a reality.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses." Joshua 1:3

*** GAME *** How do you and your team try to capture the flag? What were the challenges you had to go through to get the flag? What happened when the flag was finally on your side?

*** BIBLE *** What was the promise God had made to the Israelites long ago? Where was Joshua supposed to take the Israelites? Who was going to give them their land? What were the challenges the Israelites faced? Since God was with the Israelites, was it easy or difficult to obey what God commanded them to do?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God help me to be always trust your promises, Jesus, please help me to be strong and courageous knowing that You are always with me. Show me where you are with me *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Role play this story as a drama. March around the room.

A BRAVE WOMEN (18)

**One Main Truth: Confidence in God brings
Courage to Face Challenges**



1 GAME: Fish Net Tag

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in
2. For safety: If there are many Players, divide them into several groups with the youngest Players in one area and the oldest Players playing in another area.
3. [Coach: Important choose the smallest little girl to be the one "It"] Choose one Player to be "It." The Player selected to be "it" then chases the others, attempting to "Tag" one of them (touching them with a hand) while the other Players try to escape.
4. Once the "It" Player tags another Player both Players are now "It" and the two Players hold hands stretching out like a "Net."
5. Each new Player tagged joins the "Net"— Players holding hands in a long line.
6. Continue playing until the "Net" catches ALL the Players.
7. Continue playing more rounds as time allows, each time with a small girl as the first player being "It".

Game Life Connection: A Small Girl Helped Win the Game / God Used Deborah to Win a Mighty Victory / God Uses Females and Males to Accomplish His Will



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

The Judge: "Order! Order!" said the Judge, as she hammered the gavel on the table. The crowd went silent. In front of the Judge stood two people, each telling a different story. "I promise to

speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God." said the first witness, placing his palm upon the Holy Book. The courtroom drama began!

From the olden days, people went to their Rulers seeking justice. We all know about Akbar and Birbal, or about the clever Chanakya.

Who do you go to in school to settle a fight?

Deborah: During the time of the Israelites, God sent a special Judge named Deborah, to save the nation from their sins.

The Israelites lived a life of sin and Godlessness. God allowed an evil King Jabin, the king of Canaan, and his General Sisera, who had 900 iron chariots, to cruelly oppress the Israelites for 20 years (Jud. 4:2–3) by taking their crops, their sheep and cattle. Unable to endure the suffering, the Israelites cried out to God for help.

As an answer to their prayers, a great Judge was appointed by God. Her name was Deborah. She was a wise and courageous woman. Deborah stood strong because she knew her God was stronger than the might of her enemies.

Meanwhile, Barak the Commander was afraid of the enemy's strength and he approached Deborah for help. Deborah encouraged him and said, "Today the Lord will give you victory over Sisera, for the Lord is marching ahead of you." She helped Barak to go forward with 10,000 soldiers.

God helped the people of Israel. King Jabin and his army were easily defeated. Deborah's bravery helped the people of Israel.

It is better to trust God than to put trust in man: God can use any one of us if we are available for Him. Put your faith in Him for He will not fail you. It doesn't matter whether you are a boy or a girl. Be available for God and He can do wonders that you can never imagine.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue."
Proverbs 31:26

*** GAME *** In the game Fish Net Tag was everyone caught? (yes) Wow? Who was the first player that was "It?" (have the little girl come forward). This little girl captured everyone? Wow, what a brave and courageous girl!

*** BIBLE *** Who did God use to help win the battle we discovered today? (Deborah) Was this person a boy or a girl? (girl) Can God use whoever he wants to accomplish His purpose? (yes). Children, boys and girls, confidence in God brings courage to face all our challenges.

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for this truth about Deborah a great leader, God help me to have confidence in you to be courageous, Holy Spirit where do you want me to be courageous *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Divide the children into 4 to 5 members in each group. Ask them to investigate Deborah's life and tell them to write an article for the school newspaper.

MIGHTY WARRIOR (19)

One Main Truth: The fewer the Resources the Great Glory to God



1 GAME: Small Relay Race

1. Make two lines of players [Coach it is important to have one line much longer, more players, than the other line].
2. Ask all the smaller students to line up into one line and have all the taller players line up in the other line. Ask the fast players to line up in the line with the taller players.
3. [Coach before you start the race make sure the smaller slower players are in the shorter line. Example the smaller player line should be 10 students and the faster taller player should be over 20 players]. Explain the players will run to the other side touch a spot then come back and tag the next player in the line. After running go to the end of your line and sit down.
4. The line with the smaller slower players will win every time! Because there are fewer, less number, of players in that line.

Game Life Connection: The Smaller Team Won the Game / The Smaller Army Won the Victory / The Fewer Resources the Greater Glory to God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

The classroom: It was noisy! All the children were out of control! The teacher shouted but no one listened. The teacher then appointed a new class captain to take care of the class. Her name was

Guddii. She was the child with the good conduct badge. Would Guddi be able to manage the class and bring in the trophy for best class at the end of the year? Guddi couldn't believe she could do it. She was the smallest and youngest in her class and feared taking responsibility. She sincerely prayed at home that night.

"Dear God. You are everywhere. You are always watching us. Please help me the way you helped Gideon, Lord! He too was in doubt about his capabilities when he was chosen to save Israel from the evil hands of the Midianites and Amalekites after Deborah and Barak's death. Yes, you sent seven years of hardship upon the Israelites, for misbehaving just like the children in my class! But, you also sent your angel to show Gidion the way to save his people. He too was like me, the smallest and youngest in his family. But you made him a warrior! Please help me God. Make me a warrior. Amen."

The next day was difficult. Guddi's mind was full of doubt just like Gidion's. She never asked God to show her miracles the way Gidion did. Gideon had asked God to prove his presence with signs. His offering of a young goat was consumed by a fire. Upon God's command he then destroyed the altar of Baal and built an altar for the Lord, with the help of ten people. Then God also sent him a sign where Gidion placed a piece of wool on the floor, and there was dew only on the wool and all the ground was dry. Praise God! Gideon asked for one more proof and this time only the wool was to be dry and all the ground was to be covered with dew. And so God made it happen.

With God's assurance, Gideon gathered thirty two thousand men to fight the enemies out of which God chose only three hundred, who defeated the huge enemies because God fought for the Israelites! There was peace in the land for forty years.

Guddi prayed the next night, *"God, I know you love me and all the naughty children in my class. Your love is everlasting. I have faith in you, and I will be obedient. Gideon wasn't the smartest, strongest or most intelligent, yet You chose him and used him victoriously. Use me victoriously, Lord! Amen."* Over the next few weeks, Guddi became more confident. With the teacher's permission she appointed vice captains. Together, they managed to control the class. It was challenging, but they did it! Yes! They were finally awarded "Best Class of the Year"! Praise God!



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "The Lord said to Gideon, "You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, 'My own strength has saved me.'" Judges 7:2

*** GAME *** Raise your hand if your team won the relay race. (smaller slower players will raise their hands). How did you win the race? (there were less, fewer, of us). So the team with the fewest players won? That sounds like our Bible discovery!

*** BIBLE *** Why did God keep making Gideon's army smaller? Who would have received all the glory if Gideon was a great leader with a huge army? (Gideon would have received all the glory) Important, boys and girls listen closely, who received all the glory with Gideon's little army won the victory? (God alone!)

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God help me to be available for you, I may not be strong or fast, yet God I am available for you. God how do you want my life to bring you glory? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Activity: What are the common qualities between Guddi and Gideon? List the good and bad qualities.

LOVE AND LOYALTY (20)

One Main Truth: God rewards those that are faithful and loyal



1 GAME: Hopper and Helper

1. Divide children into two teams. "Team Solo" and "Team Helpmate"
2. Explain "Team Solo" must follow these rules: only one player runs at a time, the player must "run" holding on leg behind their back holding it with both hands, if they let go with either hand they have to go back and start over again.
3. Explain "Team Helpmate" must follow these rules: one player must "run" holding on leg behind their back holding it with one hand, the other hand they can put on the shoulder of another team mate, their helpmate.
4. When five players from each team have race have them sit down. "Team Helpmate" will win every time. Allow children to rotate and play all roles.

Game Life Connection: Two are Better than One in the Game / Ruth Helped Naomi & Both Were Stronger / God Wants You to Help Others



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Best friends: Anita and Priya were neighbours. They were friends since childhood. They went to the same school and travelled on the same school bus. Anita had polio and was three years older than Priya, but that did not matter. They always sat together and chatted on the bus. Priya volunteered to carry Anita's school bag all the way to her classroom every morning. In the evening too she did the same, and cheerfully said goodbye to her at her gate every day. Their friendship was special!

Do you have a best friend? What would you do for your best friend?

Mother-in-Law: Can a mother-in-law be a friend? Can she be as important as a loving mother? Let's find out from the story of Ruth and Naomi.

Elimelek and his wife Naomi had two married sons. Their wives were Ruth and Orpah. During the days of Judges, there was severe famine in Bethlehem, so they all went to live the country of Moab. Sadly, while they were in Moab, Elimelek and his two sons died. Naomi and both her daughters-in-law became widows. Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem. Ruth and Orpah wanted to go with her, but Naomi thought it would be better if they stayed in their own land with their parents. Naomi kissed them and they wept aloud. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye and went back to her parents' home. Ruth did not leave Naomi. She decided to go wherever her mother-in-law went. Ruth firmly said to Naomi, "I will go wherever you go... Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God." Naomi took her along and they both returned to Bethlehem as widows. Ruth had stayed loyal to her mother-in-law.

Boaz: In Bethlehem, the two widows began a very difficult but fresh life. Ruth went to work in a field every day to pick up leftover grain. The field belonged to Boaz who was from a clan of Elimelek. Boaz saw Ruth's hard work and commitment. Later Boaz the rich man married Ruth the loyal widow and they became the great grandparents of King David! Praise God! God rewarded Ruth for her loyalty and kindness towards her mother-in-law, Naomi.

The stories of Ruth and Naomi, and Priya and Anita, show that relationships based on biblical values and principles can make life blessed.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Where you go I will go, where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." Ruth 1:16b

*** GAME *** Why was it important to stay close to your partner? Could you cross the finish line by yourself? Was it better to play with a partner? Why?

*** BIBLE *** Who chose to follow Naomi back to her homeland? Why did Ruth go back with Naomi? Did Ruth decide to follow the God of Israel and continued serving her other gods? What godly attitudes did Ruth show towards Naomi? Love, loyalty, commitment, faithfulness.

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God help please help me to be a loyal friend and to always be there for my friends whatever situation they may be going through, may it be good or bad. Holy Spirit who do you want me to help? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Activity: Divide the group into pairs. The pairs sit on the floor, back pressed to back and arms interlocked. Now let them slowly stand up without using their hands. After a pair manages to stand up, make them find another pair and all 4 must sit down and stand up. They can go on as such until the entire group is together and have everyone try to stand up and sit down slowly.

PRAYER AND GRATEFULNESS (21)

One Main Truth: God answers persistent prayers and rewards promise keepers



1 GAME: Simon Sez

1. One Coach is "Simon." Simon makes request like "touch your toes" children are only to respond if Simon says "Simon Sez touch your toes." Children are out if they do something that Simon does not tell them to do.

2. [Note: All the requests Simon asks the children to do should be easy to follow. Such as touch your ear, do 5 jumping jacks. Lie on your tummy, sit down, stand up]

3. [Later in the game, switch roles, the children will be the ones asking Simon to do something for them like "give us 500 monies" have Simon Say "I Can Not Do That" or do 5 pushups, Simon would do the pushup, have some of the requests things Simon can do, and even have some of the coaches ask Simon to do some things that Simon will not do because it is not good to do it, such as, throw trash on the floor]

Game Life Connection: Game Simon Always Did Right / God is Rewards Hannah's Prayer and Answered Promise / God will Reward You when You Keep Your Promises



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Puppy: Praveen loved puppies. Who doesn't? They're fluffy and cute. You can hold them and love them. Every time Praveen saw a puppy on the street, he would ask his mother, "Can I please have a puppy, mummy, please!" "I will look after it. I will feed it. I will give it a bath. I will do everything for it!" Mummy warned Praveen, "Beta, having a puppy means being committed to it for its entire life! Will you be able to do that?" Praveen

thought for a while and replied, "Mummy, you and daddy have me to love, I too want to love and take care of a puppy in the same way." Mummy hugged her son. Then, on his tenth birthday, they got him a puppy! Praveen was overjoyed and thanked his parents a hundred times!

Baby: Hannah and her husband Elkanah loved God. They went to the temple regularly to worship Him. Elkanah loved Hannah a lot but she was very sad all the time because she had no children.

Ask and You Shall Receive: Hannah went into the temple and prayed ceaselessly. She prayed so hard that her lips moved but no words came out. She promised God that if she had a son, he would be dedicated for the service of the Lord. Eli, the priest told her that God would surely answer her prayers because she was praying so honestly. God answered her prayer and in due time she gave birth to a baby boy! She named him Samuel, meaning 'Heard by God.' *Hannah kept her word to God.* When Samuel was old enough she brought him to the temple, dedicated him for God's service and put him under the care of priest Eli to work in the temple. She thanked God for answering her prayers.

Young Samuel learnt and grew up in the temple under the guidance of priest Eli. One night, God called "Samuel! Samuel" And Samuel ran to Eli and said, "You called me.?" Then Eli said, "I did not call you. Go back and sleep." There was a call again and again and the fourth time when God called him, Samuel said, "Speak to me Lord, your servant is listening." That night God told Samuel about the coming punishment upon priest Eli's household because of his sons' wickedness. Samuel saw how God brought destruction upon Israel. The Philistines badly defeated them and killed many soldiers including Eli's sons. Hearing the news Eli fell from his chair and died there.

After Eli's death, Samuel became the Judge and prophet over Israel who faithfully served God for 80 years. And he was one of the most successful prophets and the last judge who ruled upon Israelites effectively.

Pray ceaselessly. Thank God, every time. Keep your word to God. Remain truthful and dedicated. Remember, only God can make our lives meaningful.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "The Lord has given me what I asked Him for." 1 Samuel. 1:27

*** GAME *** Where you able to do all the things that Simon asked you to do? (yes) Why? (easy) Was Simon able to do all the things you asked him to do? (no) Why? (Some of the things were not right)

*** BIBLE *** What was Hannah's request to the Lord? How did God answer her prayer? What did she do when God answered her prayer in a positive way? Does God always answer our prayers, or only sometimes? What are the three ways God answers prayers? Sometimes He says, "no." Sometimes He says, "wait." And sometimes He says, "yes."

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for answering my prayers, God I know you answer prayers: Yes, No, Wait. Holy Spirit show me a promise I need to keep *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Activity: Let children sit in groups and pray for each other's concerns. Guide the children and make (**help**) them learn how to pray. Also make them write Lord's Prayer Matthew 6: 9-14 on a chart to hang it in the classroom.

ISRAEL'S FIRST KING (22)

One Main Truth: Obedience is better than sacrifice



1 GAME: Listen Obey Relay

1. [Coach: Tell the children that they will have a mission to accomplish. But they will have to listen very closely to the instructions].
2. Show Players an object in the distance that the players have to run to around and back and then the next team member runs.
3. Divide the Players into two or more teams depending on the number of Players making sure teams are divided evenly. If there is an uneven number have one Player run twice for their team.
4. When their turn is finished have them go to the end of the line and keep moving forward to the next round. Explain there will be three rounds.
5. [Important: Only give the instructions once]. Tell the children that the first round, they will skip on one leg, the second round they will run backwards, the third round, they will walk quickly yet they must walk.
6. The winning team is the team that completes all three rounds correctly and then all team members sit down.

Game Life Connection: Players that Listened were able to Obey / King Saul Disobeyed God and was Disciplined / Even Leaders that Disobey God are Disciplined



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Cricket: The cricket team had chosen their captain. He was tall, fit, and an ace batsman. His name was Dilip. The whole country loved Dilip. When he came onto the field, his fans shouted, "Deelip! Deelip! Deelip!" They were overjoyed when he hit a six. He was perfect!
We want a King: The people of Israel demanded a King. They wanted to be like other nations. A

handsome young man named Saul was anointed by Samuel as Israel's first King. He was perfect!

But Saul and Dilip had something else in common. Although both came from good families, were raised well and prayed, they lost God along the way. Their stories ended badly. Why?

As Dilip became more popular, he changed. He moved away from his discipline. He started to take bribes. He cheated. He had lost his way. He was disgraced and had to resign as captain. When questioned, Dilip started making excuses. First he said he didn't do it. Then he said his teammates did it. Then he said the team manager made him do it! A sad story, indeed!

Saul: Saul was completely unaware that he was to be the ruler of Israel. He spent his days watching his father's donkeys. One day, when the donkeys wandered off, Saul went looking for them. Knowing that Samuel was a man of God, Saul and his companion went to ask him if he could use his divine gift to locate the donkeys. Saul did not realize what lay ahead until Samuel anointed his head with oil. Pouring oil on the head was part of the ceremony of giving a position to anyone. Samuel told Saul that God had chosen him to be the leader of Israel. Joyously the people shouted, "Long live the King!"

Saul did not follow God's instructions: Once, Saul tried to act like a priest and offered a sacrifice to the Lord. He was wrong to act like a priest! Then, as King, Saul had to defeat the Amalekites. They were warlike people. They had no fear of the Lord. Years ago, Moses pronounced that God had promised to destroy the Amalekites. (Deu; 25:19). God wanted to keep that promise through Saul and his army. The Lord instructed Saul to destroy everything, even the animals. Saul did not obey. He kept a conquered King alive and took him back as a trophy. Saul became proud. He erected a monument to himself at Carmel. When Samuel asked him to repent, Saul made excuses and lied. He blamed his soldiers for the wrongdoings. First he said he didn't do it. Then he said his soldiers did

it. Then he said the soldiers made him do it! A sad story, indeed! (See the similarities between Dilip's story and Saul's story?) Although he finally confessed, (1Samuel 15:24) the Lord had lost trust in him. Without God Saul was nothing.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams."
1 Samuel 15: 22b

*** GAME *** After the relay, ask the children how well they think that they followed instructions. Why is it important to follow instructions? What happens when we do not follow instructions? Boys and girls if your team finished first, but did not follow the instructions, you would have lost, been disqualified.

*** BIBLE *** How well did Saul follow God's instructions? What did God think of Saul's sacrifice? What does God think about disobedience? What was God's response to Saul's disobedience? Is God pleased when we do things for Him in our own way?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God please help me to obey You the way You want to be obeyed. Not according to what I think, but according to what You say in your Word. God how do you want me to obey You? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Discuss what it means to take responsibility for our own actions. Children can discuss situations when they are tempted by greed. How do we stay true to God?

ASK FOR GOD'S WISDOM (23)

One Main Truth: God will give wisdom to those that ask, the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom



1 GAME: Too Many Choices

1. Have children take off their shoes (provide an alternate game if some of your children do not have shoes)
2. Have children place one shoe in one pile at the end of the room/space and place the other shoe in another pile away from the first pile (have a leader mix up the shoes in each pile).
3. Divide children into 4 teams. Have the first child from each team run down and try to find their shoes then come back and the next player in line runs down to find their shoes.
4. First team to have all their shoes and on their feet is the winning team.

Game Life Connection: *Some things seem impossible by ourselves / Solomon asked for God's wisdom to lead an entire nation / You need to ask God for his wisdom to live wisely*



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Mother: One day, two women came with a baby before a King. They were fighting. Each said that she was the true mother of the child. To find out the truth, the King asked his servant to cut the baby into half and give them each half the baby! The false mother agreed to divide the baby into half! The real mother, unable to see her baby about to be killed, urged the King to give the baby to the other woman. Praise God!

Solomon: The King we speak of was none other than Solomon the Wise, the son of King

David. One night God appeared in young Solomon's dream and said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." Solomon chose 'wisdom' to rule his people wisely. God was pleased that Solomon had put his God given responsibility before himself. Solomon knew that the Israelites needed a wise king who could lead and rule them.

Wisdom: What is wisdom? The Bible tells us, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." The dictionary defines that wisdom is good sense and judgement.

Tanuj and his granny were best friends. She played with him, pampered him, and understood him. They loved each other very much. As Tanuj grew up, his parents did not notice a change in him, but nothing escaped granny's eyes. She noticed that he now had new friends and smelled different. Tanuj had begun to smoke and drink. He tried to hide the smell from everyone by using extra perfume and by chewing bubble gum. He knew that his granny and parents would be angry if they caught him doing bad things. One day, granny sat with Tanuj and started to oil his hair as he ate hot pakodas that she lovingly made for him. She spoke to him gently. "Beta Tanuj, I've never asked you, now that you are going into college, what would you like to become?" Tanuj replied, "Granny, I'm not sure what I want to be, but whatever I choose to do, I want to be good at it. That is my goal." Granny replied as she gently massaged his head, "Beta, remember, whatever choices you make in life, ensure that they lead you towards your goal, and not away from it. And when temptation comes your way, remember to ask God to guide you. Don't be clever, be wise." Granny said a silent prayer in her heart for her dear Tanuj. She continued to massage his head and did not speak on the topic again.

Two months later, she was happy to notice that *Tanuj no longer smelled of too much perfume,*

nor was he chewing bubble gum! He looked happier. She was proud that he had taken the path of wisdom.

We need to make choices every day. Good sense tells us not to do anything that will harm us or those around us. We can practice wisdom everyday by choosing the right thing to do, with God leading the way.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."
Proverbs 1:7

*** GAME *** Was it easy or hard to find your shoes in those two big piles when you were blindfolded? Explain that there are so many choices in life. If we try to make those choices without God's wisdom it is like trying to find our shoes in those two big piles.

*** BIBLE *** Did Solomon rely on himself to make choices? What was the secret of Solomon's success in ruling over Israel? Who is the only who can give us wisdom?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God please give me wisdom to have the right priorities and to help those around me. Holy Spirit help me to rely on You every moment of the day. Ask God for wisdom right now *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Give each child a chance to be King of the class and solve problems.

TRUE LIVING GOD PROVEN (24)

One Main Truth: There is only one true God



1 GAME: Follow the Leader

1. Before you start, choose a Coach to be a "Distracter." Do not tell Players this is happening. That Coach is going to walk around distracting the Players from following the leader. If you have a large group you may want to have more than one "Distracter."
2. Tell the Players that the Game Zone Leader will be the "Leader" for the first round.
3. Have all the Players line up behind the "Leader." The "Leader" then moves around and all the Players have to mimic the "Leader's" actions, like hopping on one foot, turning circles, moving from one side of the room to the other, or walking backwards.
4. Any Players who fail to follow or do what the "Leader" does are out of the game and sit down on the sidelines.
5. When only several Players other than the "Leader" remains that Player is now the new "Leader," and the game begins again with all the Players joining the line once again.
6. Play several rounds as time allows.

Game Life Connection: *There were Distractions in our Game / Elijah Pointed the People to the One True God Regardless of Opposition / You are to Point People to the One True God Regardless of Opposition*



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Inspector Vinod: He was the most honest inspector in the Police Force. He faced many difficulties as he had to fight other corrupt policemen who did bad things using their position.

He had to stay strong! It was not an easy battle for Inspector Vinod. Yet, he did not give up. He fought each corrupt officer until they were all dismissed from the force.

Prophet Elijah too had to destroy 450 false prophets! Let's find out how he did it!

Elijah: Evil King Ahab, his evil wife Queen Jezebel, and the foolish people, did many wicked things. God chose Prophet Elijah to warn them to repent. He sent a famine upon their land. Jezebel wanted to kill Elijah, who ran away and hid in a brook where he was fed by ravens. God always finds ways to provide for his people!

Our Living God: There were many false prophets in the time of Elijah. Lone and brave Elijah challenged King Ahab and 450 prophets of Baal at Mt. Carmel! He asked the false prophets to make their offering, and show if it would be consumed by their gods without using fire. Till midday these prophets of Baal frantically prayed and even cut their bodies to invoke their gods. Elijah taunted them to pray harder saying "maybe he's sleeping and you've got to wake him up." Nothing happen and now it was Elijah's turn. He asked people to pour water on his offering altar. He prayed to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Then the fire of the Lord fell upon the altar and completely consumed the offering! Thus Elijah proved in front of Ahab, that His God is the true living God!

Taken Up, Alive: Elijah faithfully served the Lord all through his life and became old. God commanded him to anoint Elisha, son of Shaphat, as his successor. One day, Elijah & Elisha were together when suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah was taken up alive into the heavens! Elisha then picked up Elijah's fallen cloak and became Elijah's successor. Elijah was the only second person (Enoch was the other, Heb. 11:5) who didn't

experience death and was taken up alive into the heavens. The true God who performed great miracles with Elijah is the same God we trust and worship today. Our Living God!



3 Life Connections

Memory Verse: "And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The Lord, he is God; the Lord, he is God." 1 Kings 18:39"

*** GAME *** Was it easy to follow the "Leader"? What made it difficult for you to follow? Did you only follow the leader every time? Were you ever tricked into following the "Distracter?" Why?

*** BIBLE *** What were the false leaders trying to tell the people to worship? Can we get distracted from following God sometimes? Who is always trying to distract us from obeying God only? Boys and girls God want us to honor Him as our number one priority.

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God please help me to be committed to following You and You alone, even if everybody else turns their back on you. Show me ways I can follow you in obedience *pause*. Holy Spirit please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Ask one child stand against the rest. Will he be able to go past them to the other side? No! Surround the same child with a circle of children. Together they can break through. We can achieve the most difficult goal with the protection of our Living God!

The Leper & the Servant Girl (25)

One Main Truth: A little girl's faith becomes an example to us today



1 GAME: Storm the Castle

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in. There is an outer square where the four teams will line up on and an inner square where the "Castle" is. Inside the castle are small objects for the Players to retrieve.
2. Divide the Players into four teams placing each team on each of the four sides of the outer square.
3. Promise: Each of you will win the game. The four teams will be winners.
4. Once the Players have been divided into teams assign each Player a number. Each team should have a one, a two, a three, and so on.
5. Place four objects in the middle of the inner square. Explain that when the Game Zone Leader shouts "Number ones (or ones and threes) Storm the Castle" the Players with that number can run to get only one object from the middle or wait until the guards are distracted to do so.
6. Choose 6 Players to be "Castle" guards. If a guard tags a player before they pick up an object, the player is out.
7. Note: Each round two guards are removed.
8. Play several more rounds.
9. The last round, there are no guards and every team wins the game. The promise is fulfilled.

Game Life Connection: The Game Seemed Impossible / It takes Faith to Believe what Seems Impossible / Have Faith even though it may Seem Impossible



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Beggars in the city: Adults are often rude. We have all seen many beggars on our streets. They look dirty. Some beggars have stubby

fingers and small noses, and they have bandages on their limbs. These people suffer from leprosy. One day, little Bunu and his uncle Vincent were going on a scooter. They stopped at a red light and a leper came to them asking for money. Father shouted at the leper. "Stand far! Don't touch us!" He then threw a two rupee coin at the leper. Bunu felt sorry for the poor leper who looked so sad. He jumped off the scooter, picked up the coin, and placed it in the beggar's stubby palm. The beggar smiled at Bunu, but uncle was very angry! He made Bunu wash his hands ten times after going home! As he cried and washed his hands, Bunu said to his father, "Uncle, if I get leprosy, will you be afraid to touch me, and throw two rupees at me?" Bunu's uncle realised his mistake and hugged his nephew.

Naaman, was a great Commanding Officer of the Syrian army. Through him the Lord had given many victories to Aram. But his life was going to change soon. He got leprosy! Lepers were considered unclean both physically and spiritually. Naaman was cast out from his family and community, and was made to live alone outside the camp.

The little servant girl: Naaman's Syrian Army had captured a little girl in one of its campaigns. She was given to Naaman's wife as a servant. The little girl had great faith in God. She saw Naaman's problem. She remembered the miracles the Prophet Elisha had done in the Lord's name. Her God was a mighty God! He could heal Naaman! Naaman and his wife believed the little servant girl and they decided to see the prophet. When Naaman arrived in Israel from Syria, he was directed to Elisha's home. Elisha did not come out to meet him personally but sent a message instructing him to wash seven times in the Jordan River. At first Naaman resisted. He didn't want to dip in the dirty river. But he changed his mind and obeyed the prophet dipping in the Jordan River with faith that he would be cured. He dipped himself in the river seven times and was healed completely! As a result, Naaman believed in God and thanked Elisha for his kind help through the little Hebrew girl. Though she

was a mere servant, the little girl's greatest courage was to **testify** her **complete faith** in God, who can do mighty things. Therefore from being a servant, the little Hebrew girl became a **powerful witness to God's greatness**.

Nobody is too young or insignificant to be a blessing to others. God can use anyone, at any age and in any circumstance **to bear witness** to his greatness. Praise God!



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you." **Matt. 17:20b**

*** GAME *** At first, did you think you could win the game? (no, too many guards) Did you believe the coach when he or she told you that you would win the game? Could you have done it alone without the Game Leader removing the guards? What would have happened had you stopped and not even tried at the beginning because you thought it was impossible?

*** BIBLE *** What was action? (she told Naaman about the One True God) What would have happened if Naaman had not believed Elisha and God? Wrong with Naaman? Did the servant girl believe God could do the impossible? How did she put her faith in

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, please help me to always have great faith in You because You are the God of the impossible. What seems impossible that I need You to do a miracle God *pause*. Holy Spirit please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Let each child list out good things they have learned from someone younger than them. Share the experiences.

THE WALL REBUILDER (26)

One Main Truth: Weak areas allow the enemy to attack, weak areas must be repaired



1 GAME: Red Rover

1. Have the children stand in a single file line from the shortest player to the tallest player. Then simply have the first child go to the left and the second child go the right until you have two new lines that are evenly divided by size.

2. Have the players in both lines stand shoulder to shoulder. The two lines should be facing the other line. Have about 15 feet between the two lines.

3. Ask players to hold hands, then spread out to the left and right so that all players hands are stretched out to their sides and holding the players hand next to them, making a WALL.

4. The first team calls out: "Red Rover Red Rover send "Raj" Right Over." Raj, from the other team, looks for a WEAK SPOT to break through, if he breaks through, he takes a player from that team back to his team. If he does not break through then he must stay on that team.

5. Take turns allowing each team to call out: "Red Rover Red Rover send "Raj" Right Over.

Game Life Connection: In the Game You looked for a Weak Spot / Nehemiah Repaired the Weak Areas in the Wall / You Need to Repair the Weak Areas in Your Life



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Home: Hello! My name is Amy. I live with my parents and my little brother Kitty. We have a warm home where we sleep safely at night. Mummy and daddy work hard to keep our home clean, healthy, and safe. Mummy gives us food and daddy fixes things that need repair. I help with some chores but Kitty is naughty. He plays all the time. He

doesn't even do his homework properly. Mummy tells me to keep an eye on him. Our favourite time is bed-time when mummy a bible story every night. We love listening to her stories!

After we are tucked in, mummy begins. Daddy is still busy. He is fixing the lock on the main door. Mummy says, "The people of Israel were disobedient once again. And disobedience has consequences, children. This is the story of Nehemiah. He was captured and taken to a foreign land as a slave." Hmm... I wonder what it must be like to be a slave. Poor Nehemiah. Mummy continued, as she patted Kitty's hair. "At that time, Nehemiah was made the cup bearer to King Artaxerxes of Persia. Nehemiah's job was to taste the king's food to protect him from possible poisoning." "That's what mummy does before she feed us" Kitty observes. Yes, she always makes sure that the salt and chilly are ok before daddy eats, and also cools the food before giving it to Kitty and me.

Mummy continues, "Jerusalem was being destroyed. Enemies brought down the city wall! Can you imagine how upset we would get if someone destroyed the walls of our home?" Sunny jumps up and begins boxing an imaginary enemy! Mummy continues, "Nehemiah was so sad. He cried for many days. He fasted and prayed to God and confessed the sins of his people begging God's forgiveness." Kitty got on his knees and pretended to cry. "With the permission of the King, Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem, to rebuild the wall! Praise God!" "Just like daddy, Nehemiah did not give up. He worked hard, and with the help of the people and the protection of God, he rebuilt the wall in just 52 days."

"Look around, children. There are broken families everywhere. Communities are crying to be rebuilt. Even Earth needs more plants clean water. The Lord needs YOU in His work in restoring all this! Will you help?" Both of us promise, "Yes, mummy!"

Mummy prays, "Dear God, let the story of Nehemiah's commitment to rebuilding Jerusalem, be an inspiration to all of us. Amen." We too say "Amen" and go to sleep. I wonder what tomorrow's story will be...



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Let us rebuilt the wall of Jerusalem and end this disgrace." Nehemiah 2:17b

*** GAME *** Can someone quickly explain today's game? Raise your hand if you were called to break through the wall? Where did you try to break through (the weak area) Why there? (because it was weak I could break through easily)

*** BIBLE *** What was the name of the man repairing the walls of Jerusalem? Did he try to fix the strong areas or the weak areas in the wall? (the weak areas) Why? (that is where the enemy could break through). Boys and girls in your life, your character, your attitude and your actions are like walls protecting God's spirit within, you may have strong areas, but possibly you have weak areas like not telling mom and dad the truth or maybe cheating at school?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God my life, my character, my attitude and actions are like walls, Jesus show me the weak areas in my life *pause* Holy Spirit please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Divide the group into two groups. Let the children gather pebbles and build little towers. The tower that is the tallest wins. The idea is to build teamwork and persistency in the face of resistance

WHY DO WE SUFFER (27)

One Main Truth: Suffering comes into the lives of Christians we are to stay true to God



1 GAME: Keep Running

1. If you have more than 20 children divide into multiple groups of 20. Have children hold hands and move outward until there is a large circle. Have children let go of hands and turn the face the back of the child to their right. (all children will be facing the back of the child to their right). [Important: have the children take three steps outward to make circle larger, this will make the game much more challenging].
2. Explain to the children they will run around this large circle try to tag the player's back in front of them.
3. When a player is tagged they are out and must move off to the side.
4. Keep playing until there are only 4 players left and declare them the winners
5. [Note: the longer the race goes the more tired the players will become and it will become more challenging to try to tag the players back because there are fewer players in the large circle].
6. [Important: Play many rounds of this game today to have children become very tired, this is a challenging game for a challenging Bible lesson].

Game Life Connection: The Game was Very Challenging / God Allowed Job to be Tested and Challenged Yet Job Never Denied God / You May face Challenges Yet Never Deny the One True God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Manju was good girl. She was honest and kind. She never wished anything bad for anyone. She followed the Ten Commandments and

knew she was protected by God. But strangely, anything and everything always went wrong in Manju's life! Bad luck seemed to follow her around! Why did God send so much unpleasantness and suffering into Manju's life? Did He not love her? She often questioned God before going to bed. Why do bad things happen to good people?

Job: Let us look into the story of Job, and try and find an answer there. Once upon a time in the land of Uz, a very rich man called Job lived with his wife, seven sons, and three daughters. He was of good character and deeply feared God. Now, Satan believed Job loved God because He blessed him to be very rich. Satan said to God, "Take away everything he has - he will curse you to your face." Therefore God allowed Satan to test Job's loyalty to Him, but warned him to spared his life.

A Bad Day: One day, one after the other, Job's servant came to him saying that some enemies attacked all the oxen, donkeys and camels, and took them all away. Another servant came running saying all the sheep were burnt in a fire. Still another came and said that all his children died in a building collapsed! The wealthy man was left alone with just his wife within the blink of an eye! Yet, Job did not complain. Then, he got boils from head to foot. Everything he had was destroyed, and now this! Job got up, tore his robe, shaved his head, and sat among ashes.

"I was born with nothing, and I will die with nothing. The Lord gave, and now he has taken away. May His name be praised!"

Job's friends who came to console him, all blamed his suffering as a result of his hidden sins. Job surrendered himself to God knowing He is in control. Despite the sadness in his life, Job had hope and waited on God's favour. God restored his wealth again, twice as much as before!

Faith: Like Manju and Job, we all face problems. Not every problem comes to us because we have done something bad. We may never understand

why God allows us to experience painful moments, but that does not mean He has forsaken us. God can turn sadness into happiness provided we continue to trust Him. *God is in control of all things that happens in the lives of those who love Him.* We must find strength in our faith. In God there is always hope!



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Though he slay me, I will hope in him"
Job 13:15a

*** GAME *** Boys and girls today's games was very challenging, you had to run for so long. Raise your hand if you are tired? Did any of you feel like quitting or just stop running? Today's Bible discovery was about a man that may have felt like quitting but he never did.

*** BIBLE *** Share some of the challenges Job faced? Boys and girls many very difficult things happened to Job, things that are difficult for us to understand, did Job ever quit? (no) Job's friend told Job to quit, but Job continued to hope in God!

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God the enemy, Satan, brings in evil and suffering into my life, God strengthen me to always hope in you and never quit. Holy Spirit show me areas I need not lose hope *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Before God created human beings God created angels. One of God's angels named lucifer, now called satan, this angel rebelled against God and brought evil and suffering to our world. Share some of the ways you suffer. Commit to live holy lives and talk about how you can show love and care to those suffering from evil.

A DISCIPLINED LIFE (28)

One Main Truth: Listen to God, Obey God, Regardless of Consequences (outcome or results)



1 GAME: Simon Sez

1. The Game Zone Leader will be "Simon" in a game of Simon Says.
2. Have the Players face "Simon."
3. Tell the Players that the commands will be given in two different ways, either beginning by saying "Simon Says" and then stating the command or simply stating the command.
4. Explain that the Players should only follow commands that begin with "Simon Says." If they do the wrong action or act after a command they should not follow, they are out and must sit down for the remainder of the round.

Game Life Connection: Players had to listen to Simon / Daniel Listened to and Obeyed God / You must Listen to and Obey God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Nishu goes to the Hostel: It was the last day of 12th class. All the children were now going into college. Many would stay in hostels, away from home. Nishu was so excited! Being the 12th class topper, she got admission into a prestigious college and looked forward to the new experience.

Daniel and his Friends (Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego):

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon attacked Judah and took many handsome, healthy and intelligent men as slaves. The best slaves (Daniel and his friends) were treated very well. They were given

food from the royal court, during their training. Items like wine and meat were forbidden.

Nishu was surprised by the freedom she had at the hostel. There were rules, but mom and dad were not around to scold her if she did not follow them. She could skip meals and stay out until late. But Nishu's honesty and self-discipline made her stay true.

Daniel and his friends too could have eaten every available food and drink. They could have broken the rules because no one was watching them, but Daniel knew that God was always watching them! They did not touch the forbidden foods. Instead of royal food they had vegetables & water. The land, language, people, and culture changed but Daniel and his friends' faith and devotion to their living God did not change. God blessed them and after three years of training, nobody could match Daniel and his friends' health, wisdom and discipline.

Nishu too always stood first in class as she chose not to attend late parties, and do bad things like many of her classmates. One day her jealous classmates made a plan to take her to a party to tempt her. Nishu went, but she did not give into temptation. Praise God!

The King's Dream and its Fulfilment: One day, king Nebuchadnezzar had a strange dream that really troubled him. All his best magicians, enchanters could not interpret the dream but Daniel did it. After Nebuchadnezzar's death, Belshazzar, a wicked man became the king. His kingdom was taken away by Darius the Medes after his death.

Daniel in Lions' Den: Although King Darius liked Daniel very much his colleagues wanted to kill him. They cunningly got an order from the king which stated that nobody can worship any other gods except king Darius. The one who disobeys the order would be thrown into the lions' den. But Daniel

went home, got down on his knees and as usual prayed to his Living God three times a day. Daniel was thrown into the lions' den but the lions did no harm him because God was with Daniel! Praise God!



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: Memory verse: "Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries." Daniel 2:47

*** GAME *** What did you do when Simon said "Simon Sez" ? What happened when you did something without Simon saying "Simon Sez"? Did some people move without Simon? Were you tempted to move too? Boys and Girls those that lasted the longest in our game were the ones that listened for the words "Simon Sez." That sounds like our Bible Discovery!

*** BIBLE *** Who did Daniel listen to? (God) Why? What did Daniel do? Did he do what the king said? Did he do what God said? Boys and girls Daniel lived in a land that tried to change him and his friends, but they stayed true to God and God received much Glory!

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, please help me to always be faithful to what your word says and not listen to outside influences. God who are the ones I should not listen to? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Before class write each word of the memory verse on separate cards. Say the verse together several times. Divide the children into two teams and have a race to see which team can put the verse in the correct order in less time.

PROPHET JONAH RUNS AWAY (29)

**One Main Truth: We Can Not Hide
Nor Run from God**



1 GAME: "Jonah" & the "Whales"

1. Explain that we are going to play a game we call "Jonahs" and "Whales" Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in.
2. Pick one Player to be a "Whale." Stand the "Whale" in the middle of the area.
3. The rest of the Players are "Jonahs" have them stand on one side of the area.
4. The object of the game is for the "Jonahs" to get across the area to the other side without getting caught (tagged) by the "Whales."
5. Call out loud "Whales Ready?" "Jonahs Ready?" "Go!"
6. The "Jonahs" should run from one side to the other then stop at the other side.
7. If a "Jonah" is caught (tagged), then that Player also becomes a "Whale."
8. Now, with more "Whales" in the middle, call out "Whales Ready?" "Jonahs Ready?" "Go!" This continues until NO "Jonah" is left.

Game Life Connection: In the Game "Jonahs" Could Not Hide from the "Whales" / Jonah Could Not Hide Nor Run from God / You Can Not Hide Nor Run from God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

The dream: Jonny's grandfather was a great storyteller. All the children in the colony loved listening to his stories. This is how he re-told the story of Jonah.

"Naughty Satish stole a chocolate from Sanjay's school bag. He hid behind a tree and licked the

wrapper clean! Yummy! When Sanjay saw Satish's mouth full of chocolate, he knew at one that he was the thief! Licking his lips, Satish ran away from Sanjay as fast as he could. Sanjay shouted, 'God will punish you! Just you watch! I hope you fall down and break your teeth!'

Jonah was no different. When God asked him to go to the wicked city of Nineveh, and warn its people that He will give them 40 days to mend their ways, or they will be destroyed, Jonah didn't want to go. He hated the people of Nineveh and wanted to see them punished. So Jonah sailed away in the opposite direction! The ship was in the middle of the sea, when a big storm came. It was terrifying! Huge waves rocked the ship! Great big winds blew hard! The sky was dark and frightening! All the sailors prayed to their gods in desperation. Jonah was fast asleep when the captain woke him up and asked him to pray to his God. How could Jonah ask for God's help when he was running away from him? Deep inside, Jonah knew that this was his Living God's way of teaching him a lesson not to disobey him!"

Along with some cargo, the sailors threw Jonah into the rough sea! Jonah drowned deep into the sea when a big fish swallowed him! This was God's plan! Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights! Then Jonah prayed to God for forgiveness, for his disobedience. The fish vomited Jonah out onto a shore!

Then, God commanded Jonah for the second time! "Go to Nineveh! Warn the people!" This time Jonah obediently went. When the Ninevites heard Jonah's warning, the King and his people repented. God forgave the Ninevites! Praise God! He is a gracious and forgiving God! Anyone who truly repents from their sins and seeks His mercy receives forgiveness!"

"Satish too felt bad for being naughty. He bought a chocolate for Sanjay and gave it to him. Sanjay forgave Satish, and shared half the chocolate with him." Then, Jonny's grandfather confessed, "Children, my name is Satish. I'm the one who stole

the chocolate!" The children were aghast! How could Jonny's grandpa have been such a naughty child? Then grandpa explained,

"Children, nobody can run or hide from God. When we pray, God forgives us! He makes those who we have wronged forgive us too! God does not like sin but he loves the sinners. Never be afraid to accept when you have done wrong. Now tell me, who has been naughty this week?" Slowly, the children start to raise their hands one by one.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love." Jonah 4:2b

*** GAME *** Did the "Noahs" want to get tagged by the "Whales?" What happened when the "Jonahs" ran from the "Whales?" Were there any "Noahs" left at the very end of the game? (no)

*** BIBLE *** Where was Jonah supposed to go? Where did he go? What? That is the opposite direction! Why did Jonah go the opposite direction? What happened when Jonah ran away from God? Did God still use Jonah? Yes! And, boys and girls, all the people Jonah told about God became followers of the One True God!

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, please help me share the Your truth with everyone even people that may not be nice. Holy Spirit tell me who you want me to pray for and share God's truth *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Draw a big fish with a man in prayer position inside its belly. Discuss: When parents, elders or teachers give you to some responsibility that you don't like, what do you do?

THE POWER OF PRAYER (30)

One Main Truth: Persistent prayers of faith are answered by God



1 GAME: What Time Is It?

1. Have two Coaches stand side-by-side at the finish line facing away from the Players. [For today's game have the coaches stand far far away from the players so it takes a long time to win].
2. Have the Players line up along the starting line shoulder to shoulder and say "What time is it?"
3. The Coach on the right should yell a time like "5 o'clock."
4. When the Players hear this they should take 5 steps forward and stop.
5. The Players should continue saying, "What time is it?" and the Coach on the right should continue to answer with a new time each round. [Important: for this game only call out small numbers like 1, 2 or 3 o'clock. Children have to be patient and persistent]
6. Important: About every third time, the Coach on the left side should shout, "It is time to go to jail!" That Coach then turns around and chases the Players back to the starting line. If that Coach tags a Player, that Player has to sit out for one round.
7. Important: The only time the Players will cross the finish line is when the Coach on the right calls out "It is time to come home!" This means all the Players can safely run to the finish line.

Game Life Connection: The Players had to be Patient and Persistent to Win / God blessed Zachariah and Elizabeth for their Persistent Prayers / God Answers Persistent Prayers of Faith



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Home for the Homeless: The class seven children were taken on a school field trip. They were to visit a Home for the destitute. Diantha was very interested to see what homeless people looked like. When they arrived, a caretaker greeted them and took them in. There was a big hall where a lot of men were sitting. They looked quite sad. One

person was lame. Another was blind. One man had a bandage wrapped on his arm. Diantha felt very sad. They were then shown a prayer room. A lady was all alone in the room. She was kneeling down and praying with her eyes closed. The children spent two hours at the home. They helped sort and wash vegetables. It was fun. When they were leaving, Diantha noticed that the lady was still praying in the prayer room! Was she a statue? She wondered. The caretaker noticed the puzzled look on Diantha's face and said, "Child, that is Sister Maria. She is a prayer warrior. She prays for many hours each day. She prays for each inmate, for all the staff and volunteers, for our donors and sponsors, and for strangers who send us prayer requests." Diantha was dumbstruck. How could someone pray for so many different people, and for so long? Maria's selflessness and devotion inspired Diantha.

The story of Zachariah (a priest) and his wife Elizabeth, who lived in the time when Herod was king of Judea, also teaches us about the power of prayer. Zachariah and Elizabeth loved and obeyed God, but one thing made them very sad. They had no children. Though they became very old they kept praying year after year for God to bless them with a child. One day, an angel of the Lord appeared to Zachariah, who was scared upon seeing the angel. The angel said: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah. Your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. He will go on before the Lord, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous - to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."(Luke 1:13-18)

Zachariah doubted the angel. "How can I be sure that what you're saying is true?" the old man said. "I'm an old man, and my wife is also too old to become a mother." The angel answered, "I am the angel Gabriel. God sent me to tell you this good news. But now since you won't believe me, you won't be able to talk until God's promise comes true." Then Gabriel disappeared. Zechariah tried to talk, but he couldn't speak! Elizabeth soon gave birth to a baby boy! Praise God! Zechariah got back his words. The

baby boy was named John, which means 'Jehovah is gracious.'

Diantha noticed two messages on the wall of the prayer room. **PRAY WITHOUT CEASING BECAUSE PRAYER CHANGES THINGS.**

She entered the prayer room, knelt down on the cotton rug, and silently prayed: "*Dear God, please bless this home for the homeless. Please bless Sister Maria, who prays ceaselessly, because she knows that prayer changes things. Thank you dear God, for our field trip today. Amen.*" She got up and instinctively dusted her knees and joined the rest of the class. She felt good.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them?" Luke 18:7

*** GAME *** Why did it take so long for anyone to win today's game? (the leader only called our small numbers, 1,2,3) It took a long time, but did you eventually win? What is it called when we have to wait a long time for something to happen? (persistent)

*** BIBLE *** How old were Zachariah and Elizabeth? (old, too old for a baby) What happened when Zachariah and Elizabeth persistently kept asking for a baby?(God answered) What does it mean to be persistent? Boys and girls, sometimes you will pray for days, weeks, months, years, and decades before God answers your prayer, be persistent in faith!

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for answering my prayers, sometimes you say "yes" "no" "wait" Holy Spirit help me to be persistent. God how can I pray persistently with faith? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Today's lesson is all about prayer. Encourage the children to sincerely pray for someone else.

PREPARE THE WAY FOR JESUS (31)

One Main Truth: God's word promised that one, John the Baptist, would prepare the way for Jesus



1 GAME: Baton Relay Race

1. Divide players into 4 teams.
2. Give the first player of each team a baton (this can be an item that can be easily passed from player to player like a small stick or sock). Have the first player run the first lap then pass the baton to the next player.
3. Important: The next player can't go until they have the baton in their hand.
4. Run 5 players for each team. When the 5th player is done all 5 sit down, the first team sitting down wins. Those five players go to the end of the line then continue with the next 5 players from each team.

Game Life Connection: One Player went before you in the Race / John the Baptist went before Jesus / God's Word Promised One would Prepare the Way for Jesus



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Who is a forerunner? He is one who comes before the other, usually to announce their coming.

The President: What happens when the President comes to visit your city? The streets are swept clean. All the garbage is cleared. Beggars are removed from the area. Often, you see a white line of chalk powder on either side of the road, showing the way to the destination. There are smartly dressed policemen everywhere, busy talking to each other on their walkie-talkies! As all traffic is stopped, many Pilot cars, with blaring sirens, make

sure the roads are clear. The president's car follows the pilot cars! It must be fun being President!

God's Son: What do you think happened when God's son was coming? There should have been a lot of preparation; a lot of cleaning up! There was only one kind of cleaning up that God wanted. He wanted a spiritual cleaning up! He wanted the people to repent from their sins and choose the path of God. There was one chosen man, John, the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, who became the forerunner of the coming of God's son. John, lived in the wilderness eating locusts and honey, wearing a camel skin, and a leather belt around his waist. He was set apart by God for a specific purpose.

John's Ministry: He was a Preacher. Many People came from different places to listen his preaching in the desert. His main message was, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near!" The word 'repent' means 'to stop living a sinful life and turn to God'. He was a Baptiser. He used to baptise people with water. People believed in his message and many repented and were baptised by him as a sign of cleansing from sin.

One day when John was preaching and baptising, Jesus Christ the Son of God came to him to be baptised! John refused to baptise Him for he knew Jesus Christ was sinless and was the Son of God! However, Jesus replied, "*It is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.*" (Matthew 3:15). John baptising Jesus Christ was important, because Jesus was about to embark his great ministry on earth! He popularly came to be known as "**John the Baptist.**"

Are you fulfilling your mission? We too can be forerunners, by preparing the hearts of those who haven't accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. Each of us should be a channel, leading

others to Jesus Christ. In Him, we can find everlasting life.

After the President's visit the city became dirty once again. Policemen did not do their job well. People littered the streets. Traffic was chaotic. Everything was back to the way it was earlier.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Repent for the kingdom of God is near." Matthew 3:1b

*** GAME *** What did every player have to run with today? (a baton) Can just one player run a relay race? How did the first runner help the last runner?

*** BIBLE *** Who came first John the Baptist or Jesus? How did John the Baptist prepare the way for Jesus? Boys and girls do you know what John the Baptist said about Jesus, he is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. John also said about Jesus "He must increase, but I must decrease." John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus!

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for sending John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus. God how can I be prepared for Jesus to return? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Join hands, sit in circle. Choose one child to come to the middle. Enact baptism, one child at a time. Repeat the memory verse for each child. After each child is done, ask them if they feel any different. Discuss their spiritual cleansing.

THE GREATEST GIFT (32)

One Main Truth: Jesus came to save the world, His birth is Good News!



1 GAME: Blind Tag

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in.
2. Choose two Players to be "It." And, choose one player to be the one to deliver the "Good News."
3. The Player selected to be "It" then chases the others, attempting to get close enough to "Tag" one of them (touching them with a hand) while the others try to escape.
4. If a Player gets tagged they are now "Frozen and Blinded" they must stand in place and with their hands over their eyes, until someone comes and tell them the good news.
5. The "Good News" Player can perform free a player that is blinded by tagging them AND the MUST say to them "GOOD NEWS YOU ARE FREE!"
6. Once any player is set free by the "GOOD NEWS" they can also set players free.
7. Restart the game often giving other players different roles to play.

Game Life Connection: Players were Set Free by Hearing the Good News / The Shepherd and Others Share the Good News about Jesus' Birth / The Birth of Jesus is Good News for ALL because Jesus Came to Save the World



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

What is the most precious gift you have received? Where do you keep it? How do you look after it? Would you share it with others? Would you give it away if it could save

someone's life? What if your precious gift had life? Would you do the same?

I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus. --John 17:23

For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed. --John 17:26.

Mary has a baby boy: A long time ago in the town of Nazareth, there was a young woman named Mary, who was engaged to marry Joseph, a humble carpenter. But before they got married, something strange happened. One day, the angel Gabriel told Mary, "You will have a baby boy and you will name him Jesus, for He will save the world." Mary was frightened and said, "How can this be? I am not married yet." The angel said the child would come from the Lord; there would not be a human father for this special child. Mary replied, "I am the Lord's servant." Later, Joseph learned that Mary was carrying God's child. He trusted and obeyed God. Mary and he had been chosen to be the earthly parents to Jesus, the Son of God! Praise God!

Caesar Augustus, the Roman Emperor, ordered a census of the entire Roman world. To get their name registered, Joseph & Mary travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Mary sat on a donkey. They couldn't find a room to rest in Bethlehem. A kind innkeeper offered a place in his animal shed. Jesus Christ was born through Mary; God himself became man in Jesus Christ and lived among man! Jesus was born to deliver man from sin and give us eternal life. This was God's greatest gift to man in all ages.

Can you imagine how much God loves us? He gave us His son, to set us free from sin.

Those who in believe in Jesus are forgiven. Jesus said: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me" (Jn. 14:6).



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "She will give birth to a son and you are to give him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins." **Matthew 1:21**

*** GAME *** When you had to stand still with your eyes closed who set you free? What did they say to you? (Good News You are Set Free!) Once you were set free could you also set others free? Boys and girls, Jesus was born to save the world, to set the world free from sin, that is Good News! We should share this good news with everyone of all nations!

*** BIBLE *** When the shepherds heard the Good News did they keep it to themselves? When the wise kings heard the Good News who did they tell? With who should we share the Good News?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, Thank you for sending your son to come save the world! This is Good News! Holy Spirit with who should I share this Good News? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Choose some children, assign characters (include the animals in the stable), and enact the story of Jesus birth.

FIGHT TEMPTATION (33)

One Main Truth: Temptation, a lie, is defeated by quoting the truth in the Bible.



1 GAME: Wait! It Says

1. Divide players into groups of 12. Two players are the “Lambs,” 3 players are the “Wolves,” and 7 players are the “Wall.”
2. Have the protected “Lambs” stand in the middle of the 7 other players. Those players, the “Wall” should stand with their arms locked and backs facing the “Lambs.”
3. The 3 “Wolves” try to tag a “Lamb.” If a “Lamb” is tagged they are out UNLESS the “Lamb” can quote a Bible verse “Its Says _____” any Bible verse will work.
4. Rotate players, so different players can play the different roles.

Game Life Connection: Players Helped Protect One Player / Jesus Quoted the Bible to Defeat Lies of the enemy / You can Quote the Bible to Defeat Temptation



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Jalaja, the clever housewife: Jalaja, who was suspicious by nature, would deliberately leave small money, a shiny watch that was not working, imitation jewellery, or any attractive object, lying around the house or in the back seat of her car. She would wait to see who would give in to temptation and steal any of these objects.

Satan too is very clever. He lays attractive traps for us all the time. Every time we fall into his attractive trap, Satan has won.

Satan Tests Jesus: Before Jesus began His public ministry He prepared himself and fasted for 40 days. During this fasting the spirit led Christ into the wilderness. He was tired, thirsty, lonely and hungry. Then Satan came to tempt Jesus.

Satan: “If you are the Son of God, order these stones to turn into bread.”

Jesus: “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

Satan: “Throw yourself down from the highest point of this temple. If you are the Son of God, He will send his angel to save you!”

Jesus: “You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.”

Satan: (Showing Jesus all the wealth of the world): “I will give you all this, if you fall down and worship me.”

Jesus: “Get away from me Satan for it is written, you should worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.”

Learn to live by the Word of God: Jesus responded to Satan by quoting the word of God. We too should overcome temptation by following the scriptures. Many of our desires are normal but we must satisfy them in the right way and at the right time. We should be careful as Satan cleverly uses our desires to trap us, and make us sin in order to fulfil the temptation.

Beware of Satan and his cunning plans to tempt you!

Learn to keep the Word of God in your heart.

Learn to apply God's Word when you face temptation.

Learn to worship and serve only the One True Living God.

When we fail to resist temptation, sin destroys our relationship with God. “Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”

--I Peter 5:8



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: “I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.” Psalm 119:11

*** GAME *** Raise your hand if you were one being protected? How did it feel to be protected? Were you able to quote a Bible verse, God's Word, if you were tagged?

*** BIBLE *** What did Jesus do when Satan tempted him? Can anyone remember the three verses? (Man shall not live by bread alone..Man shall not temp God...You shall only worship the One True God..) What should we do when we are tempted?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: “Lord God, help me to remember your Word when I am tempted, help me to memorize your Word so I will be ready. What words, verse, should I memorize? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth.”

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional). Encourage children to read temptation verses such as I Cor. 10:13, Heb. 2:18, James 1: 2-3, James 1:12; I Peter 2:9, Rev. 3:10. Discuss and then write those verses on a chart paper. Talk with the children about temptations that they face among their peer groups. How can the scriptures help them fight temptation?

MIRACLES OF FAITH (34)

One Main Truth: Our God is a Powerful God



1 GAME: So You Say

1. [Note this game only takes a few minutes, have several other fun games to also play, they can be any fun game].
2. [Important: Gather 3 small pebbles for each child. Find a coach or someone that can juggle 3 small pebbles.]
3. Have someone demonstrate what juggling looks like. Ask the boys and girls if they think they can juggle? Many children will say yes, not realizing how challenging it is to juggle.
4. Allow children several minutes to try.
5. Close this game by saying "Wow, it is easier to say "Yes, I can juggle than to actually juggle. Let's play some other games!"

Game Life Connection: It is easy to just say something / Jesus Proves He is God through Miracles / Have Faith and Believe Jesus is God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Cookie: The doctor said to Cookie's mother, "Ma'am, your daughter is getting headaches because she is spending too much time using the Internet." Cookie looked at the doctor suspiciously. How could she get a headache from the Internet? She loves watching cartoons. Cartoons don't give her a headache. Maths homework does!

The doctor went on to explain, "There are so many invisible signals around us. These signals are harmful to our bodies. Just because you cannot see them, does not mean they do not exist." He smiled and gave

Cookie a chocolate. She ate it immediately. She enjoyed it as she could see it, touch it, and taste it. Would she enjoy an invisible chocolate, she wondered. Cookie's mother Aarti said to the doctor, "Only a miracle can keep Cookie away from the Internet."

Miracles: While Jesus was on earth, he performed many miracles. Miracles are those magical acts that only God can perform.

Cookie had heard the story of Jesus and the many miracles He had performed. He healed a blind man who sat begging by the roadside on the way to Jericho. Jesus said, "Receive your sight." Then immediately the blind man could see everything clearly (Mk. 10:46-52). One day Jesus was in a boat with his disciples in the Sea of Galilee. Suddenly a big storm rocked the boat. The disciples were terrified. They found Jesus asleep in a corner of the boat. They woke Him up and said, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" Jesus said, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid." He commanded the storm to be still and the sea became calm. He is a powerful God.

As Cookie left the doctor's clinic she asked her mother, "Mummy, just like the invisible signals, Jesus is invisible too, isn't he?" Her mother replied, "Jesus is everywhere. Just like the signals, His miracles are everywhere. You are his little miracle too!" Cookie felt so proud. She was God's miracle!

Cookie's mother continued, "During his earthly ministry, Jesus performed many miracles that people witnessed. He helped the blind see, the mute speak, the deaf hear. He healed lepers, cast out demons, and even raised the dead!

If you pray sincerely, He will perform miracles in your life too, Cookie!" Saying this, she made Cookie stop on the street, looked down towards her, and prayed aloud. "Dear Jesus, thank you for the beautiful

miracle of Cookie in our lives. Can you please perform another miracle and make Cookie stop using the Internet? Thank you, Jesus. Amen."

No prayer is too big or too small. No miracle is too grand or too simple. Jesus answers every sincere prayer with a miracle. You must be willing to see this miracle, recognise it, and be thankful for it!



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29

*** GAME *** Raise your hand if you said "Yes I can juggle." Now, raise your hand if you were actually able to Juggle. It seems it is easier to say you could do something than actually to do it. Today in our Bible discovery, Jesus said He was God, Jesus did not just say he was God, Jesus proved He was God.

*** BIBLE *** Boys and girls, Jesus is God and proves he is God. How does Jesus prove that He is God? Jesus can do miracles because He is God. Jesus' miracles always bring glory to God.

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God I believe Jesus is God. God I believe Jesus is God. God I believe the Holy Spirit will live in my if I believe can forgive my sins and be my Savior. God how can my faith increase? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Blindfold a child. Make him walk backwards to the finish line. Place obstacles in his path and warn him as he walks. After finishing the task discuss with the children whether this was an easy or difficult task. How would they perform without help?

HOW TO BE BLESSED (35)

One Main Truth: Jesus shares that God's ways are not like man's ways



1 GAME: Follow the Leader

1. Tell the Players that the Game Zone Leader will be the "Leader" for the first round.

2. Have all the Players line up behind the "Leader."

3. The "Leader" then moves around and all the Players have to mimic, do the same motions as the "Leader's" actions (make sure some actions are challenging: do five pushups, whistle, make sure some actions are easy: hop on one foot, skip across the room, sing funny song, walk backwards, and make sure some actions are funny: pretend they are a bird and flap their wings).

4. Any Players who fail to follow or do what the "Leader" does are out of the game and should sit down on the sidelines.

5. The Leader can pick a new "Leader" from one of the children, the new "Leader" performs actions and the game begins again with all the Players joining the line once again.

Game Life Connection: In the Game You Followed the Leader / Jesus, God's Son, Tells, Leads Us, how to Live / You should Follow Jesus Your Leader



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Rohit woke up early to get ready for school. His homework was done, his bag was packed, and his uniform was neat. He loved school. He always followed the school rules. He was always on time. Rohit was a happy boy.

Alok woke up late. His hair was messy. He wore a soiled uniform and went late to school. He disliked going to school because his homework was always incomplete. Alok was unhappy.

Rules: Just as a school has rules, our life too must follow rules. We have already studied the 10 Commandments which are the basic rules for Godly living. There are eight more rules that can keep us blessed and happy in Jesus.

When Jesus came to the world, He taught the people what it means to be blessed in the Kingdom of God, through his teachings.

Matthew 5:1-13. There were so many people who wanted to see Jesus. So, Jesus went up on a mountain and spoke.

What is blessedness? The 8 Beatitudes teach us how we can be blessed.

Blessed are:

the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven: Anyone who needs and seeks God's help will be part of God's kingdom.

those who mourn, for they shall be comforted: Anyone who is sorry for their sins will be comforted & forgiven.

the meek, for they shall inherit the earth: Anyone who is humble and follows God will be part of His kingdom.

those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled: Anyone who desires God's moral values will be happy.

the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy: Anyone who is kind and forgiving to others will receive mercy.

the pure in heart, for they shall see God: Anyone who has a clean heart to please God, will see God.

the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God: Anyone who brings God's peace upon others will be God's son.

those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven: Anyone who suffers for Jesus Christ will inherit the kingdom of heaven.

Who do you think was truly blessed, Rohit or Alok?

Are you blessed? How?



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven." Matthew 5:16

*** GAME *** Who was the first leader? Who was the next leader? What were some of the easy actions to follow? What were some of the challenging actions to follow?

*** BIBLE *** Who is God's son? What does Jesus ask us to do when he tells us to do something? (follow him, obey) What are some of the easy commands from Jesus to follow? What were some of the challenging commands from Jesus to follow?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God I believe Jesus is God. God I want to follow the teachings and commands of Jesus. Holy Spirit show me a teaching I can follow *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) See And Say Game: Show the children 8 different items like a pen, book, stone, mobile, and so on. Each item will represent one beatitude. Pick one item and ask everyone what the item represents.

THE TALENTS PARABLE (36)

One Main Truth: God gives you talents and God expects those talents to be used for His glory



1 GAME: Capture the Flag

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in. Point out the center line that divides the field in half, one half for "Team 1" and the other for "Team 2." Then point out that each team has a "Flag" hiding in one of the back corner of their side of the field and in the other back corner is their "Jail."

2. Explain that each team's goal is to be the first team to grab the "Flag" and bring it back to their side.

3. Then explain that once a Player crosses the center line into the other team's land the other team can tag them and send them to their team's "Jail." They must remain in "Jail" until a fellow teammate frees them by tagging them out. After they are released, they are free to run back to their side without getting tagged. If a Player is tagged while carrying the "Flag," they must drop the "Flag" where they were tagged and go to "Jail."

4. Begin the game. Allow it to continue until one team brings the "Flag" back to their side.

Game Life Connection: We have to be Faithful to Our Role in the Game / The Servants that Multiplied their Talents were Rewarded / When You Multiply Your Talents God will Reward You



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Shreya and Akshara were both talented children. They studied well and sang well too. Shreya neglected her talent and it was soon lost. Akshara sincerely practised her talent and won the best singer award at school. Although both

children were equally talented, only one succeeded because of hard work and determination.

We all possess God given talents. We must recognise them, nurture them, be thankful for them, and praise God for them.

Parable – Jesus was a good preacher. People waited to hear him speak. His parables or simple stories conveyed a moral or spiritual lesson. Biblically, a Parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.

His parable about a "talent": During Jesus' times, a talent was a large amount of money. We all know that the word talent also means a gift or a special ability.

There was a wealthy man who decided to go on a long trip. He called his servants and instructed them:

Master: "I will give you some talents. Look after my property."

Servant 1: "Thank you, master, for giving me five talents."

Servant 2: "Thank you, master, for giving me three talents."

Servant 3: "Thank you, master, for giving me one talent."

He then went away and returned after a few years.

Master: "What have you done with the talents I gave you?"

Servants 1 and 2: "We invested it and make it double, Master!"

The master was very pleased. He put servant 1 and 2 in charge of a lot of important things.

Servant 3: "I have done nothing with talent you gave me, Master."

Master: "What a shame! You have not used your talent. Give your unused talent to servants 1 and 2, and leave."

The angry master sent him out into the darkness.

Our God gives us talents and abilities that are our special gifts. Some of us are good in studies, some of us are better at certain sports, and some may be good with building things. Whatever our God given talents are, we must recognise them and use them, before we lose them! Then, when we stand before God, he will be pleased with our effort, respect, and dedication.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Well done, good and faithful! You have been faithful with few things; I will put you in charge of many things." (Matt. 25:23)

Game: List some of the different roles, positions, in the game "Capture the Flag?" (Jail keeper, flag protector, tagger, runner) What would happen if every player wanted to be a runner and no one guarded the flag, or if everyone guarded the jail?

*** BIBLE *** What reward did the servants receive after multiplying, increasing, their talents? (more) How can your talents, your gifts be used for God's glory? Do you have to wait to be an adult to use your talents?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, Thank you for the talent you have given me. Please help me to use my talent for your glory. God please show me my talent and how I can use it for Your glory God. *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Encourage children to exhibit their talents before the class. Based on their talent, give them guidelines to improve and nurture them. Ask them how they are using their gifts in the service of God.

REWARD FOR LABOR (37)

One Main Truth: Jesus rewards those that work early and Jesus rewards those that come later



1 GAME: Balloon in the Air

1. Divide players into groups of three. 2. give each group 10 balloons and a large beach towel(or similar cloth).
3. Two of the players will hold the towel at each end. The third player will have all of the balloons. When the game begins the two players will wave the cloth as the third player places a balloon on the cloth.
4. The third player continues to add balloons to the cloth as the two players wave the cloth trying to keep all the balloons in the air without losing the balloons.
5. At the end of the game allow the children to keep the balloons.

Game Life Connection: We all got balloons / The men all got 1 denari for their labor / No matter when we come to Jesus we all go to heaven



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

A Father's Will: An old man was dying. It was time for him to give his property and wealth away. He had 9 children; five girls and four boys. The oldest child was twenty, and the youngest was seven. They all stood around his bed as he spoke. The oldest thought he should get the most, the girls thought they would get nothing, and the youngest was too busy playing with his toy. The father announced, "Everybody gets an equal share." Those who expected more were angry,

those who didn't expect anything were surprised and happy, and the youngest was still playing with his toy.

Jesus had a beautiful parable to explain to us, that everyone who believes in God and accepts His call receives the same reward in the end - the reward of Salvation.

What is Salvation? It is freedom from sin, sickness, and death. It is eternal life in Jesus Christ!

The Grape Garden: Jesus' parables were so interesting and full of meaning. He told the people the story of the Vineyard Owner and the Workers. A Vineyard Owner hires workers at different times during the day. Each worker puts in different hours of labour. However, he generously pays them ALL a full day's wages at the end of the day. This seems unfair to those who have worked hard all day in the hot sun. But the Vineyard Owner points out that He has not been unfair to those who came first. After all, they agreed to work for a day's wages. He has simply been just as generous to those who came last. In this way, Jesus said, that the "last will be first and the first will be last." The parable of the Workers in the Vineyard teaches us about the generosity of God in Salvation.

Though we will each receive individual rewards for what we have left for Jesus' sake (Matthew 19:28-29), our salvation is not earned by our own work or the length of it; it rests in God's grace alone.

Reward for Labour in the Kingdom of God: God called each one of us to be a labourer in His kingdom, promising whatever is fair as a reward. When we accept Jesus Christ as our personal saviour, we will all receive eternal life as our reward. It is God's will. Praise God!



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith... it is the gift of God." (Eph. 2:8)

*** GAME *** What happened in the game? Was it hard to keep the balloons in the air? What was your reward?

*** BIBLE *** What happened in the lesson today? How do you think that made the workers feel? Did they all get what they were promised?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, please help me share the Your truth with everyone even people that may not be nice. Holy Spirit tell me who you want me to pray for and share God's truth *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth." mmmmmPray out loud & repeat after me- Dear God, Thank you for your blessings. Help me to remember to always work for you no matter what I am doing. Amen.

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) : Divide the children into a few groups. Assign different duties to every group like tidying up the place, helping each other etc. The teacher may appreciate their work equally. See if the children complain about working harder or longer than another child or group.

LOST AND FOUND (38)

One Main Truth: God is a loving God



1 GAME: Kick Ball

1. Divide players into two teams.
2. Set up the field of play like a baseball field marking the four bases creating a diamond shape.
3. Team 1 will be in the field assigning players to cover the bases and the outfield. Team 2 will line up behind "home" plate to kick the ball.
4. The pitcher will roll the ball to the first player of the other team. If the ball rolls over "home" plate, that player will then attempt to kick the ball. If it does not roll over home plate, the pitcher will get the ball and roll it again. Once the player kicks the ball, they will run to first base. If they make it to first base, they are safe. If the other team catches the ball in the air, they are out. If they other team gets the ball and tags the player, they are out. If the ball goes out of the baseline, that is a foul and the player may attempt to kick again.
5. Once the player is determined either safe or out, the next player in line kicks the ball.
6. The players move from 1st base to 2nd base to 3rd base to "home" to score.

Game Life Connection: *The teams were so happy when a player made it home / The father was so happy when the son came home / God is so happy when a sinner comes home*



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Temptation: Eighteen year old Anshu loved his friends. His parents were uneducated and that embarrassed him. He did not want his friends to

know who his parents were. They were hard working labourers who saved every rupee they earned to send Anshu to school. One day, Anshu stole his parents' savings and ran away. He stayed with a friend in the city and had lots of fun. He enjoyed all the things a big city offers. Anshu never worked. In a few months all his money was over! His friend asked him to leave. Nobody wanted him when he had no money left to spend. He begged on the city streets as he was hungry and homeless. A few months later, he decided to go back to his poor parents. His mother had died and his father refused to take him back! He even threatened to call the police if Anshu did not leave. Anshu hung his head in shame and disappointment, then turned and left, never to be seen again. His father continued to work hard for a living. He never spoke of his son.

Forgiveness: When we love someone, we should give them time to learn through the mistakes they make. Many children argue with their parents and walk away. They often return defeated, but wiser. Their parents must forgive them and accept them back with open arms. This is when their real life in God begins.

Jesus spoke of the prodigal son, who took his share of money and left home. Just like Anshu, he had a good time spending all his money on friends and expensive things. Soon, his money got over. He had no food to eat. He suffered for many years and finally realised his mistake and came back home. His father, who missed him terribly all these years, ran to greet his son and took him back home. He called to his servants to bring slippers and a coat for his son to wear. Such is the love of a father!

God is our Heavenly Father. God loves all his children. He watches us when we make wrong choices wasting years of our lives on things that

bring us temporary pleasure. But, if we repent and go back to Him, He will accept us with open arms! Praise God!



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." (Luke. 15:24).

*** GAME *** What happened in the game? Did anyone score by making it home? How did that make your team feel? When your team got a point, what did you do?

*** BIBLE *** Where did the son go? How do you think that made his father feel? What did the son discover? How did the father feel when the son came back home? What did he do?

*** LIFE *** Pray out loud & repeat after me- Dear God, Thank you for loving me and rejoicing when I came back to you. Help me to remember that I am not alone and I can come to you with my needs and problems. Amen.

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) The leader can hide an object (maybe a coin, prior to class) and let the children search for. When they find it, remind them that God is looking and waiting for the sinners to come to Him.

LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOR (39)

One Main Truth: Express love to those we love and also the unlovely



1 GAME: Band Aid Tag

1. One Player will be chosen to be the "Tagger."
 2. The "Tagger's" job is to chase around the Players trying to tag each Player three times.
 3. Player's job is to avoid being tagged.
 4. Once a Player has been tagged three times they must go see a "Doctor." The "Doctors" will be Players that volunteer to sit out on the sideline helping the other Players get healed and back on the field.
- The first time a Player gets "tagged," they have to place one hand on or near the spot where they were tagged, like applying a "Band-Aid."
 - If they are tagged a second time have them place another "Band-Aid" (hand on or near) the second spot.
 - If they get tagged a third time, they must go to the sidelines, find a doctor and do five(5) jumping jacks to get "healed" and, then, rejoin the game.

Game Life Connection: The "Doctors" Helped the Hurting / The Samaritan helped the Man in Need / Love Your Neighbor as Yourself



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Who is your neighbour? Someone who lives close to your house is your neighbour. A country that is next to yours is a neighbouring country. A stranger sharing the seat with you on a bus is your neighbouring passenger. Everybody who is near you at any time becomes your neighbour for that time!

The Priest, the Levite, the Samaritan, and the Pilgrim:

Priest: A man who performs sacred duties in a temple, he was considered the mediator between man and God.

Levite: A Levite belonged to a group of people who helped priests in the temple.

Samaritan: A Samaritan was anyone who came from the land of Samaria. Israelites of Samaria had intermarried with foreigners. They worshipped images. The Jews did not like them.

Pilgrim: One who travels to a foreign land; usually to a holy place.

The Unfortunate Pilgrim: A man was traveling on a lonely, rocky road, from Jerusalem towards Jericho. He was singing to himself. Suddenly, robbers attacked him and beat him mercilessly. They took all his belongings and tore off his clothes. They left him on the roadside half dead.

Upon seeing the wounded man; Priest, looking around: "Let me just cross the road to the other side, and pretend like I didn't see anything."

Levite, slowing down: "Let me look closely. Oh. I cannot help him."

Samaritan, running to help: "Oh no! This man is badly wounded. I must help him. I will kneel next to him and clean his wounds with oil. I will bandage his wounds with strips of my own clothing. I will put him on a donkey and take him to an inn and pay for his stay there. After all, he is my neighbour on this road."

The Message from Jesus: The priest and the Levite are supposed to be the ones who should practice love and compassion, yet they don't. The Samaritan, although he was despised, had the love and compassion for a man in need. God wants us to be sensitive and sympathetic to those who are in need of help. Jesus said, "You go, and do likewise."

As the children of God, we should be willing to help people who are in need. "Love your neighbour as you love yourself."



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Love your neighbour as you love yourself." Luke 10:27b

*** GAME *** In the game if you were tagged three times were you out? (no) How did you get back into the game? Raise your hand if you volunteered to be a "doctor?" Why did you volunteer to be a "doctor?"

*** BIBLE *** What happened to the Samaritan? How did the man help the Samaritan? Why did you think the others not help?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, help me to love my neighbor as myself, who would you have me to be kind and help? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Learn the memory verse. Then, divide the children into pairs. One will be the Pilgrim and the other will be the Priest, the Levite, and the Good Samaritan. See how they enact their roles. Ask them how they feel when they are bad to someone versus when they are good to someone.

KINDNESS COUNTS (40)

One Main Truth: By being kind,
we live the life that God intended for us



1 GAME: Dodge Sock

(Supplies needed)

1. Divide into two teams.
2. Divide the play area into two sides.
3. Place at least 4 rolled up socks (making a soft ball) on each side of the play area.
4. Players grab sock and throw at players from the other team. If a player is hit, they go to jail.
5. Important: A player from your own team can throw a sock to you while you are in jail, if you catch it, you are set free from jail and can rejoin the game.

Game Life Connection: Our friends were kind to us by getting us out of jail / The rich man was not kind to Lazarus / God wants us to be kind to everyone and help those in need



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Young shepherd: Long ago, there lived a

A Fast and Selfish World: A man was fallen on the side of the road. His nose was bleeding. People just walked past him.

A dog had its head stuck in a plastic drum. People saw and laughed. Nobody tried to help.

A woman was carrying two children and walking on the road. No one offered her a lift.

A poor hungry child was peeping into a restaurant. He was chased away.

A man was drowning. People watched and took photos on their cell phones.

The list is endless... There is no kindness in these acts of ignoring another's pain; there is only selfishness.

Lazarus and the Rich Man: Every living thing dies. Rich or poor, there is no escape from death. There was a very rich man who had everything. He was healthy. Near his gate was a beggar named Lazarus. He had painful sores on his body. He was starving. Every day, the rich man went past Lazarus, but did not help him.

One day, Lazarus died. Angels came and took his soul to heaven, where he sat by Abraham's side. He was happy and healthy in heaven. Soon, the rich man also died. He was not taken to heaven. He was sent to everlasting flames.

Rich Man: "Have pity on me! Send Lazarus to dip his finger in water and touch my tongue. I am burning in this fire."

Abraham: "Remember, in your life you had good things. Lazarus had a sad life. Now Lazarus is happy and you are in pain. There is too much space between where you are and where we are, we cannot come to you and you cannot come to us."

Rich Man: "I beg you, Father, send Lazarus to my family for I have five brothers. Let him warn them so that they too will not come to this place of torment."

Abraham: "Your family must listen to the teachings of Moses and The Prophets. If they do not believe, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from death."

Sadly, there was no second chance for the rich man.

When death comes knocking on our door, there is only one thing that matters: our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Matthew 16:26; "What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?"

Be kind to those who are less fortunate. For every kind act you show towards those in need, God will reward you. Kindness counts.



3 Life Connections

Memory Verse: "If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." Luke 16:31

*** GAME *** Raise your hand if you ended up in jail? How did you get out of jail? How did you feel when someone got you out of jail? Could you do anything to get yourself out of jail? (no I had to wait until my team mate threw me a sock)

*** BIBLE *** How did the rich man treat Lazarus when they were alive? Why did he treat him bad? What happened after they died? What did the rich man ask for after he died?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, remind me there is place set aside for those that do not love you, help me to tell everyone I know about heaven and your great love for everyone. Who can I tell today? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Day of sharing, prayer and love: Divide the children into groups of three. Ask them to share with one another their troubles. Encourage them to listen well and then pray for each other after each person shares.

SEEDS AND THE SOILS (4:1)

One Main Truth: God desires His children to listen, obey, and practice God's truth



1 GAME: The Rocky Race

1. Divide players into teams.
2. Explain you will run a relay race, one player runs, comes back gives a "high five" to the next player, then the runner will have a seat at the end of the line. Play until all players are sitting down. Declare the winner.
3. Announce that the next round the winners will have a heavy object, (large rock or box, or chair) that they will carry and pass to the next player. Tell them this will make the race fair for the other players.
4. Run the race again. Congratulate the new winning team. Give the new winning team the heavy object and continue to play.

Game Life Connection: A Heavy Rock Slowed the Runners / Rocky Soil Brings No Fruit / Our Lives Bring Success, Fruit, when we Listen, Obey, and Practice God's Truth



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Rules for Good Behaviour: We see rules everywhere. We are reminded to behave properly as we live in a civil society. We have school rules, office rules, road rules, bus and train rules, construction rules, and many other rules.

What are our rules for living a good Christian life? These rules come from God's word! How do we understand and follow God's rules?

Here is a beautiful parable told by Jesus.

Once, a farmer went out to the field to plant seeds. He scattered the seeds on the entire field. The seeds fell on different types of ground. .
Some seeds fell along hard pathways where birds came and ate them up.

Some fell on rocky places where there was not much soil. The seeds sprouted quickly but soon died in the heat as they did not take firm root.

Some other seeds fell among thorny plants. They grew for some time, but the thorns choked the life out of the plants.

Some seeds fell on rich, fertile soil where they took root and produced many fruit.

The seeds represent God's word. We are the different types of ground.

The hard pathways are people whose heart is hardened by circumstances. These people hear God's word but do not listen and understand.

The rocky places where there is not much soil, are people who are happy when they hear the Gospel. But, when a difficult or testing time comes, their little faith cannot hold, since they have no firm roots.

The thorny ground represents people who seem to receive the Gospel but worldly things like success and money become more important. They don't give time to God. Their ambitions choke out the message of God.

The good soil represents people who hear, listen, understand and receive God's word. They live a life of growing faith in God. They

nourish a good character. The spirit of God leads them. That is the result of having true faith in God. These people serve and honour God through their daily lives.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "But even more blessed are all who hear the word of God and put it into practice."
Luke. 11:28

*** GAME *** Raise your hand if you and your team ran with the heavy object? Was it easy to run with a heavy object? Boys and girls the heavy object was like the hard soil, the rocky soil, and the weedy soil! Bad soil brings NO GROWTH. Bad things in our lives like the heavy object slow us down and cause us to lose!

*** BIBLE *** What did the seeds represent? (God's word) Describe the soil that had the best fruit? (good soil) What does the soil represent? (our heart, our life) Boys and girls our heart is good soil and God's Word is the seed, God will do mighty things, growth and fruit, in your lives if you listen, obey, and share God's truth.

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, please help my heart be soft, my life be open to know your truth, to know Your Words. What Bible verse can I memorize not to sin against You? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Ask the children to create their own list of ten rules for the club. Discuss these rules as they share them. Then, write them on chart paper. Post the chart on the wall and ask them to check each other to follow the rules.

REPENTANCE (42)

One Main Truth: A true change is called transformation, Jesus can transform hearts



1 GAME: Freeze Tag

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in.
2. Choose a Player to be "It." Choose one Player to be the "Transformer"
3. The Player selected to be "It" then chases the others, attempting to get close enough to "Tag" one of them (touching them with a hand) while the others try to escape.
4. If a Player gets tagged they are now "Frozen" and must stand in place with their arms stretched out until they are unfrozen.
5. Only the "Transformer" can unfreeze a frozen player, they unfreeze them, by tagging them or by touching their outstretched hand.
6. Once a frozen Player has been unfrozen they must say "Thank You." If they do not say "Thank You" they are out for the rest of the round.

Game Life Connection: The Unfreezer could Free Other Players / Jesus Transformed Zacchaeus' Heart / Jesus can Transform Anyone's Heart



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Madan Loves Money: Madan was a rich man. He loved his money more than anything in this world. He loved touching it, counting it, possessing it! He could buy whatever his heart desired with his money. He thought he could even buy people and their love with it! His money made him feel powerful. His wife and two daughters

loved him a lot but they soon realised that he loved his money more than he loved them. One day they left him. Poor Madan did not realise that his true wealth was his family. Madan soon began to feel lonely. He had no one to care for him. He lived in a big house surrounded by luxury, but there was no love in his life. He apologised to his family but they knew that his repentance was not true. He still loved his money more than anything in the world. His family did not go back to him.

Zacchaeus: In the time of Jesus, there was a Tax Collector named Zacchaeus. People did not like him because he took their hard earned money from them.

One day, Jesus entered Jericho. He had become so popular that everyone wanted to see Him and soon He was surrounded by a huge crowd. Zacchaeus was too short to see over the crowd. He quickly ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree to see Jesus coming his way. When Jesus reached the spot He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down for I must stay at your house today." Zacchaeus came down at once and welcomed Jesus gladly.

Jesus, the Savior: People didn't like Jesus meeting Zacchaeus. Although Jesus did not say, 'Zacchaeus, you are a bad man.' Zacchaeus knew all the bad things he has done. So he said to the Jesus, "Look, if I have cheated or overcharged anyone, I will pay back four times the amount." After listening to his words of true repentance, Jesus Christ said to him, "*Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.*"

Zacchaeus demonstrated a true change of heart. Jesus loves every sinner, and no sin is too bad to be forgiven. That is why Jesus came into this world

and died for us so that we can have eternal life! Therefore everyone must invite and meet Jesus personally and those who have received Jesus, like Zacchaeus, will never be the same again. Madan did not repent. He still lied and made excuses. He still loved his money. As good followers of Jesus Christ, we must pray for people like Madan who are unable to genuinely repent. We must share the teachings of the Gospel with them.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:10

*** GAME *** How did players change or transform from being frozen to unfrozen? Who could unfreeze you? What did you have to do to get unfrozen?

*** BIBLE *** What happened to Zacchaeus? How did he transform, change? Who transformed him? Can Jesus still transform people and people's hearts today?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, thank you for transforming Zacchaeus. Thank you for transforming me. Please strengthen me to tell others about how you have transformed my life, who should I share with this week? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Draw a big tree on a chart paper or on the blackboard with few branches. Also draw a separate picture of Zacchaeus. The children can then play PUT ZACCHAEUS ON THE TREE (blindfolded). There don't have to be any winners but children will enjoy seeing where Zacchaeus is sitting.

ARISE FROM THE DEAD! (43)

One Main Truth: Jesus demonstrates His power over death by raising Lazarus



1 GAME: Capture the Flag

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in. Point out the center line that divides the field in half, one half for "Team 1" and the other for "Team 2." Then point out that each team has a "Flag" hiding in one of the back corners of their side of the field and in the other back corner is their "Jail."

2. Explain that each team's goal is to be the first team to grab the "Flag" and bring it back to their side.

3. Then explain that once a Player crosses the center line into the other team's territory the other team can tag them and send them to that team's "Jail." Normally they must remain in "Jail" until a fellow teammate frees them by tagging them out. After they are released, they are free to run back to their side without getting tagged.

Important: in today's game if a player is put in jail they can rejoin the game simply by counting to 7 then saying "Life has Power Over Death!"

4. If a Player is tagged while carrying the "Flag," they must drop the "Flag" where they were tagged and go to "Jail."

5. Begin the game. Allow it to continue until one team brings the "Flag" back to their side.

Game Life Connection: Players Could Restart in the Game / Jesus Called Dead Lazarus Back to Life / God has Power Over Death



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

The Magic Show: Brothers Ajay and Vijay were so excited to go to the magic show. They sat on the edge of the seat as the show began. The magician appeared out of a cloud of

smoke! He wore a large red cape and looked mysterious. The audience was silent. A woman walked into a long box. Only her head was exposed. The magician closed the box. Then, he suddenly began to pierce large swords into the box. The woman died! Ajay and Vijay were both shocked and delighted at the same time. The audience waited to see what would happen. The magician then removed the swords one by one and opened the box. The woman came out smiling. She was alive! Everyone clapped loudly! What a show!

What is the difference between magic and a miracle? Magic is an illusion. It is a trick. A miracle is a divine hand helping us in our human lives. Jesus performed miracles. He made the lame walk, he made the blind see, and he even raised the dead!

The Bethany Miracle: Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha lived in Bethany, near Jerusalem. Lazarus fell ill and word was sent to Jesus to please come and heal Lazarus. Jesus was late. By the time he arrived Lazarus had died and he was laid in a tomb for four days. Lazarus' sisters were very upset. When Jesus came, Martha went rushing to Him. She could not stop weeping. Jesus said to Martha, "Your brother will rise again." "I am the resurrection and the life." Martha replied, "Yes Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God." Upon Jesus' word, Lazarus came alive! Not by magic, but by a miracle of God!

Most of us suffer and die spiritually as we lead a sinful life. When those who are close to us, weep for us and seek God's grace for us, we can experience a spiritual rebirth. It is important for us to keep an eye on the spiritual life of our loved ones. Always seek God's help. Our God can perform miracles!

When you believe in Jesus, anything is possible! Don't forget to clap and rejoice every time Jesus performs a miracle in your life! Praise Him! Worship Him! Give Him glory! He has power over death and eternity. To receive this eternal gift we need to accept Jesus as our personal Saviour.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Whoever lives by believing in me will never die." John 11:26

*** GAME *** What happened in the game if someone was tagged? (put in jail) How did someone get out of jail? (say "Life has Power Over Death"). Did players play more boldly knowing they could get back in the game (yes!)

*** BIBLE *** What happened to Lazarus? (he died) How did Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead? What does that prove about God? Boys and girls Jesus has power over death! If Jesus has power over death, and Christians have eternal life, how should we live our lives?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, thank you for showing you have power over death, thank you for raising Lazarus from the dead. God thank you that I will live forever if I have received Jesus as my Savior. [Leader, Salvation Prayer] *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Ask the children to make greeting cards (ensure that they write a verse of comfort in their card). Show the children how to be thankful to God for their life. Make bookmarks of I LOVE GOD or THANK YOU GOD.

SHARING MULTIPLIES (44)

One Main Truth: Jesus multiplies anything we give to him, give generously



1 GAME: Cats and Mice Reverse

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in.
2. Pick one Player to be a "Mice." Stand the "Mice" in the middle of the area.
3. The rest of the Players are "Cats;" have them stand on one side of the area.
4. The object of the game is for the "Cats" to get across the area to the other side without getting caught (tagged) by the "Mice."
5. Call out loud "Minnows Ready?" "Sharks ready?" "Go!"
6. The "Cats" should run from one side to the other then stop at the other side.
7. If a "Cat" is caught (tagged), then that Player also becomes a "Mice."
8. Now, with more "Mice" in the middle, call out "Mice Ready?" "Cats ready?" "Go!" This continues until only one "Cat" is left. The last Player left to get caught is the first "Mice" for the next game.

Game Life Connection: One Mice Multiplied into Many / Jesus Multiplied the Boys Fish and Bread / Jesus Multiplies Anything You Give to Him



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Sharing: One day, a woman bought some food for herself for lunch. When she saw a beggar, she felt compassion and gave him her food. She felt good about sharing. The beggar had not eaten in two days. He thanked and blessed the woman who

hurriedly went off to her office. The beggar sat under a tree to eat. As soon as he began to eat, a thin, diseased dog came and looked at him. The man gave the dog half his food! Such is the kindness of a good heart! The dog ate some food and took a piece to its puppy. Some birds and squirrels came and ate the crumbs. Tiny ants too joined in! The lady who first shared her food was treated to a meal by her colleagues! The chain of goodness never stops!

The Miracle of Sharing: One day, Jesus went up to the top of a mountain and began teaching. Many people followed him. They listened to Jesus' teaching for many hours. When evening came everyone was hungry.

Disciples: "Send the crowd away, so they can go to the village and buy themselves some food."

Jesus: "They do not need to go away; you give them something to eat."

Philip: "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite."

Andrew: "Here is a small boy walking by with five small loaves of bread and two fish."

Jesus: "Ask everyone to sit down in groups."

All five thousand men, women and children were seated. Jesus took the loaves and the fish, looked up towards heaven and blessed the food. Then He broke the loaves and handed them over to his disciples along with the two fish. The disciples passed around the baskets of bread and fish. Everyone could take as much as they wanted. They had eaten to their heart's content! After the crowd had eaten, Jesus asked the disciples to gather all the leftover food so nothing would be wasted. There were twelve baskets full of bread and fish left! How was that possible? That's a miracle!

The little boy who willingly gave up his food contributed to this miracle. When we wholeheartedly give or share with others, it multiplies. When we humbly surrender ourselves, He can do much more than what we can ever imagine. God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again and whoever believes in me will never thirst." John 6:35

*** GAME *** How did the little tiny Mice change all the Cats to Mice? (one by one) When you start with one and end with many what is that called? (multiplication) The Mice multiplied!

*** BIBLE *** How many people were there when Jesus was teaching? Did the disciples find food to feed the people? What did the little boy give? What did Jesus do with what was given to him (Jesus multiplied it) Boys and girls Jesus multiplies whatever we give him! Wow!

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, thank you that anything given to You, You will multiply. What would you have me give to you Jesus? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Encourage the children to bring any eatables from home. Inform them a day ahead. Set up a table. Let all the children place the items they brought on the table. (Biscuits, chocolates, or homemade snacks.) Ensure that they share and eat. Children will learn that LITTLE IS MUCH WHEN GOD IS IN IT.

HOSANNA! (45)

One Main Truth: Focus on Jesus have great faith that He will do great works through your yielded life.



1 GAME: Not My Tail

Supplies Needed

1. Divide all the Players into groups of 10 Players. Each group holds hands and forms a large circle. Drop hands and face the back the person to your right facing their "tail"
2. Distribute tails (a strip of fabric or string or anything that can easily be pulled off) to all the Players and have them tuck it into their pants, skirt, or belt loop if possible. (For Players who can't tuck in a tail: tie a longer piece of cloth around their waste as a belt and then tuck the tail into that). [Important if "tails" are not available simply tag the player in front of you]
3. Explain that the object of the game is for the players to grab the tail of the player in front of them. When a tail is removed that player is out for this round.
4. When the Game Zone Leader says, "Stop," the Players that still have their tail are the winners.

Game Life Connection: Focused Players Did Well / Peter Focused on Jesus Did the Supernatural Walked on Water / If You Focus on Jesus Alone He will Do Great Works through You



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

The Big Fire: These days, people live in tall buildings. A young couple and their baby lived on the second floor. The apartment had a small balcony that hung above a common area below. One day, as the husband was washing his scooter downstairs, he heard a loud sound and then

screaming! He looked up and saw that his apartment was on fire! His wife and child were in the balcony crying for help. The gas cylinder had burst. The man shouted to his wife, "Throw the baby down! I will catch her!" The mother was hesitant at first. The father said, "Trust me! I will not let her fall!" The mother took God's name and dropped the child. The father too put all his faith in The Lord, and caught the baby girl in his arms! Praise God!

By then the firemen arrived and rescued the lady too. The fire was soon doused.

Jesus Walks on Water: One day, Jesus' disciples were caught in a storm in the Sea of Galilee. Jesus was on the shore. His disciples were terrified. They called to Jesus for help.

Jesus simply walked on the water to reach them. When they were afraid of Him, He said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

Peter said loudly, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

Jesus responded, "Come."

Peter carefully stepped out of the boat and began to walk on the water towards Jesus. Peter fixed his eyes on Jesus at first, but the sound of the storm distracted him. He was afraid and began to sink in the water.

Peter immediately looked up at Jesus and cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Jesus reached out his hand and lifted Peter up, "You have such little faith Peter," "Why did you doubt me?"

As soon as Jesus got into the boat the wind stopped and the water was calm. The disciples worshipped Jesus saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Jesus is the Son of the Living God; he has the power over nature and can do anything for those who trust him. Like Peter, if we reach out to God,

He can save us from any storm of life. With Jesus we can experience miracle in our lives.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." 31b "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" Matthew 14:30,31b

*** GAME *** Did you focus on your tail or the one in front of you? Was it possible to look at your own pin and the one in front of you? Boys and girls if you turned and looked you would lose the game, you had to keep looking in front of you at the goal! That is just like our Bible Discovery!

*** BIBLE *** What happened when Peter looked at Jesus while walking on the water (Peter did something supernatural, a miracle) What happened when Peter became afraid and looked around at the wind and waves? (Peter sank and cried out Lord save me)

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God, I want to live a live where I keep my eyes on you and you do super natural works through my life. What are some of the things that distract me from you? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) A "Trust Fall" game: Call out three children. Make two children stand behind the third, with locked arms, ready to catch. Then, the one standing in front falls backward blindly without bending his or her knees (get the distance right). The one who falls back blindly will land safely in the locked arms of the two standing behind (So that he/she won't fall down on the ground). The idea is a great way to demonstrate how to trust each other. Make them discuss the importance of trust.

HOSANNA! (46)

One Main Truth: Jesus received praise as King Jesus entering Jerusalem



1 GAME: Yay! Team!

1. Have all players line up on the outside of one line.
2. When the coach says "go", all players try to run to the other side without getting caught by the "shark" (a coach) in the middle. Any minnows tagged by the shark now become sharks, too.
3. When all players have reached the other line, the coach shouts "go" again. This repeats until only one player is left as a minnow.
4. Announce that in this new round, you will play the same except that when players get caught, they can choose to stand on the left side or the right side. If they stand on the left, they cheer for the shark. If they stand to the right, they cheer for the minnows. Encourage players to cheer the loudest for team members by name.
5. Announce the winning team. The team that yelled the loudest.

Game Life Connection: We Cheered for our Friends /
The people Cheered for Jesus /
Jesus Your King Deserves Our Loudest Praise



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Sports Day at School: It was a big day. All the children were well dressed and excited. They practised for their drills and competitions. They had to do their best today, not only for themselves and their teams, but for today's honourable Chief Guest, who was none other than President Abdul Kalam! Everybody wanted to see

this great man. He was admired as a brilliant scientist and a good human being as well. Everybody loved him!

When Abdul Kalam arrived, one would have expected a fleet of cars and a lot of high security. However, he had two pilot cars, and he stepped out of a car with just the driver and himself. Four bodyguards escorted him till the school gate. The Principal received him with a Guard of Honour that included twenty children.

A Big Day for Jerusalem: Jesus was here! He rode in on his donkey, yet people went rushing to see him! He came unannounced, yet people thronged to receive Him. People spread their cloaks in His path, while others cut palm branches and spread them on the road for him. They honoured Him and showed their respect in this manner. The crowd waved palm branches and hailed, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory and Hosanna in the highest!"

Palm Sunday: This royal reception of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem came to be known as "Palm Sunday" because the crowds were laying and holding palm branches along the way. The crowd believed that Jesus was the Messiah; and he would set up their earthly Jewish kingdom. What they did not understand was that Jesus came to set up a spiritual kingdom.

How Should We Present Ourselves to Jesus? We have been made in His image. Just as the children were smartly dressed and prepared for their Sports Day, we should keep our spiritual life clean and immaculate. Try to be kind, just, compassionate, truthful, and loving, like Jesus. Ask Him to help you to be like Him. Read about Him in the Bible. Practice His principles in your daily living. Talk

about Him to others. Praise Him! It is through Him that we will enter His Kingdom.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "The crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna in the highest!'"
Matthew 21:9

*** GAME *** Why was the game so loud? Would it have felt strange if you were the only one cheering? Did you hear anyone cheering for you by name?

*** BIBLE *** What happened when Jesus entered Jerusalem? Why were the people praising Jesus? What were some of the things people had seen Jesus do that would make them want to praise Jesus?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, I praise you for all of the wonderful things you have done. Remind me to praise you everyday. How can I praise you right now? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Observe cleanliness day. Take time to clean up the classroom. Once cleaning is done tell the children that our hearts need to be cleansed regularly, just the way we cleaned our surroundings. Help one another to keep our community clean from ill will and bad habits. Surround yourself with love and clean relationships.

THE GREATEST SACRIFICE (47)

One Main Truth: Jesus freely paid the penalty for your sins and freely offers you grace.



1 GAME: Race Arouns

1. Divide players into multiple teams.
2. Have the players form a large circle where players can't touch hands even with arms outstretched.
3. Have one player at a time run all the way around the circle. They should tag the next player in line who will then run all the way around the circle.
4. Have the coach time the players.
5. When all the players finish, tell the players their time. Next, tell the players that they must cut their time in half or they will have to run 10 extra laps.
6. Play the next round. When the players don't beat the time, have the coach volunteer to run the laps.
7. As the coach runs the laps, have the players count each lap.

Game Life Connection: Coach Paid Our Penalty /
Jesus Paid Our Penalty /
Jesus Paid Your Penalty



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Classroom Punishment: Class 9 was the naughtiest class in school. The Principal had decided that the Class Captain Tanray, who was a good leader and was popular, would be punished for the wrongdoings of all the children. When Ashray did not complete his homework, Tanray was called by the Principal. He returned rubbing his fingers saying he had to write Ashray's homework fifty times! When Preetha was talking too much, Tanay said he had to do

one hundred sit-ups in the Principal's office. And when Prakash stole a classmate's fountain pen, Tanay who was again sent to the Principal, returned looking terribly sad. This time he had been beaten on his palm with a wooden ruler! Some children thought they saw blood on his palms! Everyone was shocked with the punishments! How could the Principal be so cruel? None of the children were ever punished so badly. Wasn't corporal punishment in Schools against the law? But, the punishments continued, and with each punishment Ashray came back looking sadder and more beaten. Soon the children began to feel terrible for causing this pain to Tanay. By the end of the week, when he had taken a punishment for everyone in class, the children wanted to protest.

School Assembly: The Principal asked the children of Class 9 if they felt bad that only one child was being punished for all their wrong doings. They hung their heads in shame and said, "Yes, Sir." Then, the Principal revealed to the children that this was an experiment, and that Tanay had volunteered for it, to teach the class to be aware that their bad behaviour can affect someone else's life! The children understood and apologised; some even cried. Tanay smiled and confessed that every time he was called to the Principal's office, he was given a book to read. Bunty said to Tanay, "I saw blood on your palm the day I stole the pen." Smiling, Tanay confessed that it was only red paint. Then, everyone lifted him on their shoulders and went all around the School, cheering his name.

Jesus' Punishment: Just like Tanay, Jesus took the punishment for each of our sins! But, Jesus' punishments were real! Is that fair? Jesus was betrayed by Judas Iscariot who was one of His disciples. Governor Pilate passed the order to crucify Jesus. The roman soldiers stripped Jesus, spat on Him, flogged Him, and tortured Him on the cross of Calvary. After many hours He said; "It is finished" and he gave up his spirit. Jesus died for each of us sinners!

He is Risen: When the roman soldiers confirmed Jesus' death, Joseph of Arimathea took Jesus' body and lay it in a new tomb. On the third day at dawn, Mary Magdalene, Jesus' mother Mary, and others went to the tomb but they found it empty! An angel appeared and said, "Jesus is not here, He has risen. Go tell his disciples." They told everyone that Jesus has risen! Later, Jesus met his disciples and told them to go to every part of the earth and share the good news of the risen Lord. For one last time Jesus appeared before many people on Mt. Olive. He said he is going to prepare a place for those who believe in Him, and He will come back again to take them there. From here Jesus ascended to Heaven.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God." Romans 4:25

*** GAME *** What happened in the game in the first round? What was the penalty if you did not cut your time in half? Were you able to cut your time in half? What did coach do for you? Why would coach do that?

*** BIBLE *** What punishment comes from sin? (death penalty) Did Jesus sin? (NO!) Why did Jesus die on the cross? (for OUR penalty) Why would Jesus do that?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God, thank you for sending Jesus to die on the cross for my sins. Jesus please forgive me. Jesus be my Savior [Salvation Prayer] *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Make an empty tomb out of craft paper. Display it in class. Write "He is Risen" or "He is Alive".

REACH ALL NATIONS (48)

One Main Truth: Jesus commands his followers, disciples, to reach all nations.



1 GAME: Fish Net Tag

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in
2. For safety: If there are many Players, divide them into several groups with the youngest Players in one area and the oldest Players playing in another area.
3. [Coach: Important choose the smallest little girl to be the one "It"] Choose one Player to be "It." The Player selected to be "it" then chases the others, attempting to "Tag" one of them (touching them with a hand) while the other Players try to escape.
4. Once the "It" Player tags another Player both Players are now "It" and the two Players hold hands stretching out like a "Net."
5. Each new Player tagged joins the "Net"—Players holding hands in a long line.
6. Continue playing until the "Net" catches ALL the Players.
7. Continue playing more rounds as time allows, each time with a small girl as the first player being "It."

Game Life Connection: Game Required Players to Reach Everyone / Jesus Commands His Disciples Reach All Nations / Your Responsibility Pray for and Seek to Reach All Nations



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

The 12 Disciples: Most of Jesus' disciples were fishermen. He wanted to make them into "fishers of men!" Twelve in all, there were three sets of brothers: Simon Peter and Andrew; James

and John, Zebedee's sons; James and Thaddeus, sons of Alphaeus.

The other disciples were Philip, Nathanael, Simon, and Matthew a tax collector. Then came Thomas and Judas Iscariot. Jesus told them that they were all to preach His word!

Jesus said: "Follow me; I will make you fishers of men."

Advertisements: We see ads on TV all the time. Most ads have popular or famous people who sell products and services. The people who see the ads enjoy watching them and then go and buy the product. Salman Khan sells Thums Up, Sachin Tendulkar sells Boost, and Amitabh Bachchan tells mothers that Maggi is safe for their children to eat! These people are called Brand Ambassadors.

Ambassadors for Jesus: The name Peter means rock. Jesus gave Simon the name Peter. Simon Peter was outspoken and hasty in nature but he was deeply loyal to Jesus. He stood out from the rest. Peter walked on water with Jesus. Peter revealed that Jesus Christ was the Son of the Living God. Peter confessed that he was ready to die for Jesus and yet later denied knowing Jesus. However, he wept bitterly after realising his mistake.

After Jesus' ascension, Peter became the leader among the disciples and he was important in starting the early Church in the First Century. He was the first to deliver a powerful sermon at Pentecost, where three thousand new souls gave their lives to Jesus on that single day. From then on, Peter along with other disciples became bold and stronger in preaching going from place to place. He became very powerful sharing the Good News, performing miracles that no other could do, and many believed in his Ministry.

Come! Let us all be fishers of men!
Let us be Ambassadors for Jesus!
Talk about him. Testify. Pray. Confess. Live with Jesus! Amen.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "make disciples of all nations teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." Matthew 28:18b19a

*** GAME *** Raise your hand if you were the first person of the net, wow how did you catch all these people? (I started one at a time and they did the same thing). Did you catch three of four children only? (no, every child!) Boys and girls that sounds a lot like our Bible Discovery.

*** BIBLE *** What did Jesus ask, call, I the disciples to do? (follow him, fishers of men, go tell all nations). Did Jesus disciples go to all nations? [think] Are you a disciple? Are you called to pray and maybe someday go to another nation?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Jesus make me a disciple, Jesus help me fish for people, Jesus could my life be used to reach all nations? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) The idea of this exercise is to memorize the names of Jesus' 12 disciples. Assign one disciple's name to each child. Now play 'The Master Commands' game. E.g. "Master Commands the Apostle Peter to step forward". The child named Peter will step forward. Give different commands to each disciple to familiarize the children with the names.

SPIRITUAL LIFE & FRIENDS (49)

One Main Truth: God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit lives in and empowers the lives of believers



1 GAME: Sharks and Minnows

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in.
2. Pick one Player to be a "Minnow." Stand the "Minnow" in the middle of the area.
3. The rest of the Players are "Sharks;" have them stand on one side of the area.
4. The object of the game is for the "Sharks" to get across the area to the other side without getting caught (tagged) by the "Minnows."
5. Call out loud "Minnows Ready?" "Sharks ready?" "Go!"
6. The "Sharks" should run from one side to the other then stop at the other side.
7. If a "Shark" is caught (tagged), then that Player also becomes a "Minnow."
8. Now, with more "Minnows" in the middle, call out "Minnows Ready?" "Sharks ready?" "Go!" This continues until only one "Shark" is left. The last Player left to get caught is the first "Minnow" for the next game.

Game Life Connection: The Smallest One Caught Everyone / God's Spirit Empowers Believers to Tell the World about Jesus / God's Spirit in Your Life Allows You to Tell Everyone About Jesus



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Mankind: Man interacts with his surroundings and responds to it in many ways. Would the heat of a fire let you touch it for more than a second? Don't you close your nose when there is a bad smell in the air? Don't you feel scared when you see a snake?

These experiences are physical.

What are our physical senses? Sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell.

What are the five physical elements? Earth, water, fire, wind, and sky.

What are our basic emotions? Fear, anger, sadness, happiness and surprise.

Can you think of any more senses, elements and emotions?

We all see the sunset. Most look at the setting sun and appreciate its physical beauty; the colour, the glow, and roundness of the sun. Some appreciate its **physical beauty** but go a step further into understanding why this happens; that the earth revolves around the sun, therefore understanding its **scientific beauty**. But some go even further and understand that this sunset is a gift from God (**spiritual beauty**). God's creation was always to point us to God.

The Holy Spirit: God gave us the Holy Spirit to point us to back to God. On the 10th day of Jesus' ascension was the feast of the Pentecost. Thousands of people were present. A sound like a strong wind came into the place. All the believers were filled with the Holy Spirit! Though people came from different places speaking different languages, the Holy Spirit enabled them to understand each other's language. Then Peter preached about Jesus' death and resurrection. People believed, and three thousand new followers were added on that day! Those who accepted the message were baptised and this was where the first fellowship and worship of believers began.

Is receiving the Holy Spirit a physical experience? Or a scientific experience (fire)? Ultimately, it is a Spiritual experience. The Spirit draws you close to God.

Fellowship: There are many acts of fellowship, like breaking bread together, praying together, worshipping together, praising God together, celebrating God together.

Even the celebration of the gift of life at a birthday party, in the name of God, becomes a fellowship. We must learn to awaken our spiritual senses to connect with God.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8

*** GAME *** How is bucket basketball different from the regular basketball game? Was easy to start the game? Why not? Did someone get you what you needed to play correctly? How was the game different after you got what you needed?

*** BIBLE *** Why were the disciples waiting in Jerusalem? Did they receive what God had promised to send them? How did it arrive? How did the Holy Spirit empower the disciples?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God help me be your witness, to tell people about you everywhere. God's Holy Spirit that Jesus promised come into my life now *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Divide the class into groups of 3. Let each group find a common interest and present it to the class. If they have something in common with another group, they can join them. See which groups grow faster and why. Discuss.

THE KIND WOMAN (50)

On One Main Truth: Faithfulness in small things causes leading in large things



1 GAME: Last First

1. Have everyone stand on a line.
2. Number the players one to ten (or depending on how many are playing).
3. Tell the whole group to switch positions on the line without falling off the line. 4.
4. If the first player is on the left end of the line, the player should end up on the right end of the line.
5. The order of the players should remain exactly how it was before, only in reverse.

Game Life Connection: Players help each other get to there place / Peter helped the woman by praying for her / We can help others and honor God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

The Famous Preacher: One day, a man was buying vegetables at the local vendor. An old lady, who was standing next to him, dropped some tomatoes. The man quickly bent down and picked up the tomatoes. As he looked at the old lady, she said, "Thank you, son." He recognised her as his old Maths teacher from School, Mrs Tabitha! She was the kindest woman in the whole world! She looked up at him and said, "Son, aren't you the famous Preacher, Emmanuel?" He replied, " Yes, ma'am. And you taught me everything I preach today!"

As he reminisced his childhood, the man remembered Mrs Tabitha, who always cared for

every child. He was weak in her subject and she gently encouraged him to do better. Through her actions, she taught him the value of patience, kindness, compassion, generosity, selflessness, and understanding. She reminded him so much of Dorcas from the Bible, whose other name was Tabitha too! What a coincidence!

Dorcas or Tabitha: Dorcas made clothes for many poor and needy widows. She spent all her time doing 'acts of charity.' She was a kind woman who dedicated her life for the welfare of needy people, a generous and selfless woman who was loved by one and all in the city of Joppa. One day, Dorcas fell sick and died. Everyone was deeply saddened.

Apostle Peter was in a nearby town called Lydda. When Peter saw the mourners he realised he how much they loved her. He sent them all out of the room and knelt down looking up to heaven and prayed. Then, he turned towards her and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes and looked at Peter. He held her hand and raised her up. He called her friends from outside. They saw with their own eyes that Dorcas had come to life again! What a marvelous testimony!

Both the Tabithas impacted the lives of the people around them. They were remembered for their good deeds. The young boy who was once her little maths student became a great Preacher; an Ambassador for God! He preached about all the qualities his teacher showed to him. If she had not been so kind to him, he would've not reached where he had today.

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all..." (Galatians 6:10). When you are happy helping and doing good things for others, they will do the same for you. God wants us to help each other. Do not grow weary of helping others.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much" Matthew 25:21b

*** GAME *** What a challenging game, you looked like ants on a stick in the water! How did you stay on the line and yet change the order of how you were standing? How did it make you feel when someone helped you get to where you were going?

*** BIBLE *** How did Peter help Dorcas? When he prayed, who healed the woman? What was Dorcas known for? (people knew she was kind)

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God, thank you for Dorcas, thank you she was kind and became famous because of her kindness. Remind me kindness brings You glory God. God how can I be kind in my life? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Divide the class into pairs. One child stands with their arms clasped behind their back, while the second child stands behind the first and puts their arms through the gaps between the first child's elbows. We see that the second child's arms are now the helping hands of the first child! Choose actions and let the children work together as one. (Help scratch the nose. Help open a book. Help eat a snack. Help button the collar. Help set hair. Help write name on the board.) Together we can accomplish more (TEAM).

TRANSFORMING HATE TO LOVE (51)

**One Main Truth: Jesus transformed
Mean Saul to Apostle Paul**



1 GAME: Listen to Me

(socks needed)

1. Divide into 4 teams. For each team have players partner with one other player, if there is an extra player the coach can join that team.
2. Instruct one partner to place a blindfold (three socks tied end to end) over their eyes, explain that the player with the blindfold has to make it to the other side of the playing field.
3. The partner without the blindfold on can talk the blindfolded player to the other side, but they cannot touch the blindfolded player. Players try to make their way to the other side.
4. After they get to the other side, players change roles.
5. Keep playing until all players have been a helper and the blindfolded player.

**Game Life Connection: Players saw the light
and ran the race better /
Saul saw the light and became a new person /
We can see the light and become a new person**



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Change: Change happens all around us. Day changes to night. Seasons change. Leaves on trees fall and new leaves are born. What is it to turn over into a new leaf? It means the old leaf is dead and gone and a bright new life emerges! Can you imagine life without change?

The story of Paul; Caterpillar to Butterfly: How many of you like caterpillars? Would you hold one in

your hand? Can you imagine that the same caterpillar that destroys all the leaves on a plant goes through a transformation and becomes a beautiful butterfly! Such are the miracles of God!

Paul or Saul: Saul was an angry man who did not like Christians at all. He abused them, beat them up, and sometimes even killed them. One day, Saul was traveling on the road to Damascus. He wanted the leaders of the city to give him permission to hurt more Christians. Suddenly, a bright light shone from above. It surrounded Saul. He tried to cover his eyes but the light was too bright! Then, a voice spoke. "Saul! Saul! Why do you want to persecute me?" "Saul, not recognizing the voice, said, "Who are you?"

The answer came back, "I am Jesus." Of course, Saul was terribly afraid. He was shaking and trembling and could hardly speak. In a weak voice he said, "Lord, what should I do?" Jesus replied, "Go into the city, and someone will meet you and tell you what to do." The friends who were with him were astonished! They didn't see the light. They didn't see a person. They only heard the voice.

When Saul uncovered his eyes, he couldn't see anything. His friends had to hold his hands and lead him into the city of Damascus. For three whole days Saul couldn't see anything at all.

Inside the city of Damascus: The people were still scared of Saul. They knew he hated Christians. There was a Christian man named Ananias who loved the Lord very much. God spoke to him in a vision, telling him to go find Saul. Ananias spoke to the Lord: "What if he even wants to kill me? The Lord spoke to Ananias again, and told him that everything would be fine. Ananias found the house where Saul was staying. He prayed for Saul and the blindness left him. The Lord healed him so he could see again.

Saul stayed in Damascus with the Christians. Saul was beaten many times by people like his old self, for changing in the Lord. He was stoned and left to die, beaten with rods three times, whipped with 39 lashes five times, attacked by an angry mob, imprisoned, was

in a shipwreck and had many near death experiences, yet in all this God protected him.

Saul came to be known as Apostle Paul. He visited many places, established churches and led people to Christ. He made his last trip to Rome to defend his faith before the Roman Empire, and eventually laid down his life for the good news he now strongly believed in and talked about.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." Galatians 2:20b

*** GAME *** Was it challenging to not see and rely on the voice of your partner? What could have made it easier? (to have the person hold my hand)

*** BIBLE *** What happened when Saul saw the light? Who spoke to Saul. What happened when Ananias touched Saul? Boys and girls do you know the first words Paul said when he could see and could talk, he said: "he (Jesus) is the Son of God." Mean Saul transformed to become Christian Paul.

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God thank you for giving grace to Saul and transforming Him to Paul, God thank you for giving grace to me and transforming me, who can I share Your grace with? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) Have the children draw a caterpillars and a butterfly Let the children take turns to colour the beautiful butterfly. Remind them of the transformation that occurs.

DESTINATION, HEAVEN (52)

One Main Truth: Jesus is coming soon to take believers to beautiful heaven.



1 GAME: Square One

(Ball Needed)

1. Mark off a square into 4 smaller squares.
2. Tell the students that each square has a number 1-4.
3. Have players line up behind square #four.
4. The first four players in the line stand in each 4 smaller squares, one player in each square.
5. The player in square #1 always starts the rally by tossing the ball into one of the other three other squares. When the ball comes in their square, they must hit it back after it bounces, the ball must bounce before being hit. They cannot catch it or hold it. They can only hit it.
6. The ball will go from player to player until a mistake is made, the ball goes out or lands in a square. The player that makes the mistake goes to the end of the line and the next person in line moves into square #four while the other players move up a square.
7. The goal is to get to space #1 and stay there as long as possible.

Game Life Connection: In the Game Players had to be Ready / Be Ready because Jesus is Coming Soon / You Need to Be Ready because Jesus is Coming Soon



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Clap your hands! Praise God! We have just completed 50 ASC lessons! All these days we have learnt about God, about how everything began, how much God loved the world that He sent His only begotten son to die for our sins. We have learned that Jesus was crucified, yet He overcame the power of death and He rose again on the third day.

Just before His ascension to Heaven, He promised His children that He would come back again to receive them. Today we'll learn about Jesus' return and our eternal home - HEAVEN.

Home: After a long day at school, Kunisha comes home hungry. She keeps her school bag in its usual place, takes off her shoes, washes her hands, face and feet, and goes to hug her mother. "The house smells heavenly, Mummy! Isn't that my favourite biryani?"

Heaven is associated with a place or experience that gives us security and comfort. It is a place where we are happy. When you are a child, the most safe and heavenly place to be, is in your mother's arms. A mother's caring touch soothes and comforts us.

When we leave this earthly existence, God has promised us a place in Heaven above, where we will all be safe, in the arms of Jesus!

When is Jesus coming back? No one knows the exact time when Jesus will come again except the Father (Mark 13:32). The disciples asked Jesus the same question just before His ascension. But Jesus told them it was not for them to know the times or seasons, which are in the Father's authority. The only thing we know is He is coming back "soon." Therefore, Jesus may come back tomorrow, next month, next year or 100 years from now. So we are to be watchful and always ready for his return.

Why is Jesus coming back? The Bible, in Revelations 22:12 says that Jesus is coming back to reward the people and He will rule the world for a thousand years peace on earth. He will then take His children to Heaven with Him, and God's children will inherit the kingdom of heaven for eternity. "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'" (Matt. 25:34). Unbelievers of Jesus would be destroyed along with Satan and his evil forces.

The beauty and grandeur of Heaven: The beauty of Heaven will be beyond our imagination! Everything will be orderly and perfect.

Apostle John described the beauty of heaven in Rev. 21 (Read Rev. 21:1-27). It's like an entire city of transparent gold. "The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass. The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass." (Rev. 21:18, 21). There will be no more hatred, war, sorrow, pain and tears, hunger or thirst. No one will grow old or die. Jesus is coming back to take us there to live forever with God in perfect peace and joy. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). This offer is available freely to all, yet those who respond and accept Jesus as their saviour will receive it.



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds." Revelation 22:12

*** GAME *** How do you play Square #1? If a player was not ready for the ball what happened? If you felt lazy for a moment, what could happen? Stand up and show me what a "Ready Player" would look like. Boys and girls God tells us to be ready, just like that, because Jesus, God's son is coming soon!

*** BIBLE *** When did Jesus say he was returning? What would you do if Jesus was not coming for 100 years? What would you do if you knew he was coming back tomorrow? How can you be ready for Jesus' return?

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "Dear God, I am looking forward to your return, come quickly Lord Jesus. Jesus live your life through me. What can I do or stop doing to hear the words "well done and good and faithful servant?" *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

THE POWER OF PRAISE (53)

One Main Truth: Praise God in attitude and action for His great love.



1 GAME: Storm the Castle

1. Show Players the boundaries that the game will be played in. There is an outer square where the four teams will line up on and an inner square where the "Castle" is. Inside the castle are two players "servants" trying to escape. The players can only escape if a "King or a Queen" another player tags them – then they are rescued. There are two players "Guards" to keep the players in the castle.
2. Divide the Players into four teams placing each team on each of the four sides of the outer square.
3. Explain that the two players in the castle are two humble servants that became lost and were taken captive by two mean guards. All the other players are Kings and Queens sent to rescue the servants.
4. Once the Players have been divided into teams assign each Player a number. Each team should have a one, a two, a three, and so on.
5. Explain that when the Game Zone Leader shouts "Number ones (or ones and threes) Storm the Castle" the Players (the Kings and Queens) with that number can run and try to tag and rescue a servant. If tagged by a guard you are out till next round.
6. The team, one of the four lines, that rescues the most servants, is the winning team.

Game Life Connection: The Kings and Queens Rescued the Servants / God in His Great Love Rescued Us / Praise God because in His Great Love He Rescued You



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

Praise: A beautiful child named Diantha, was pampered and cared for greatly by her family.

She was bright and playful and sang songs all the time. However, over time, she became quiet. She began to look sad. She stopped singing. When her mother noticed the change in her daughter's behaviour, she went to her school to find out what had gone wrong. She spoke to all her teachers and found that one teacher in particular shouted at Diantha everyday. She never praised the child for all the effort she put into her studies. Instead, she only complained about what Diantha was doing wrong. Diantha began to dislike her teacher and did not want to go to school!

When Diantha's school was changed, she was surrounded by loving teachers in her new school who encouraged her by praising the effort she put into her studies. She soon became cheerful and did brilliantly in class. She even started to sing again! Such is the power of praise. Praise God!

From this little story, we learn that it is very important to praise anyone who puts in their best. Praise builds confidence. It makes a person feel better, and therefore do better.

Praising God: God never stops being good to us. He showers us with miracles throughout our lives. Should we not praise Him for everything?

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! This means, Praise God! Praise is an expression of faith. It is a joyful thanks and adoration to God, and the celebration of God's goodness and grace in our lives.

Why we need to praise God? The reasons are countless. Most importantly the Book of Psalms in the bible means "Book of Praises." Every psalm is devoted to praise and thanksgiving. This book clearly provides hope and confidence in God as the Almighty, the Creator of everything, the ultimate Ruler of everything. He knows everything, He has no limits, His presence is everywhere.

Why do we sing God's praise? Music is beautiful. It has harmony. It expresses deep emotion. In the Bible, music and song were used many times: At

coronations (1 Kings 1:39-40), events in the royal court (2 Sam. 19:35), feasts (Isa. 5:12). Music can be supernatural too! Remember how the walls of Jericho fell down (Jos. 6:1-20) by trumpet sounds; and David played his harp and sang to soothe Saul's troubled mind (1 Sam 16:14-23).

Praise and Worship: Even today, praise, worship and music play a big role in Christianity. Praising the Lord in music allows us to enter the sacredness of God's Glory. We should learn to praise our God all the time because of who He is, what He has done for us, and what He will continue doing for us. In heaven we will continually worship and praise God for eternity. "Praise the Lord."



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples." (Ps. 57:9)

*** GAME *** Raise your hand if you were a "King or a Queen" did you rescue a servant? Raise your hand if you were a "Servant" how did it feel to be rescued? (I wanted to thank the King/Queen and to praise them)

*** BIBLE *** Where as the Psalm, song, poem, writer sing praises? (among the nations) The Bible, God's word, tells us to praise and worship God, how can we worship God? (sing songs) Is praside and worship only singing songs? (no) Boys and girls worship is all we do in our life, our life is an expression of worship by what we do in attitude and action.

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God, I will praise and worship you through song, and through my attitudes and actions. What can I praise you for right now? *pause*. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Reinforcement (Optional) Clap and sing the song, "Praise Him." Sing as many songs as the children would like! Sing songs with actions.

THE LIVING WORD (54)

One Main Truth: God's Word is needed to know the One True God.



1 GAME: Stand Still Soccer

1. Divide children into two teams.
2. [Important: NO soccer ball is used. Each team has a player be the "human soccer ball."] Choose one player on each team to be a human soccer ball and give them a blindfold (three socks tied together). The rest of the team members will spread out. Have one team raise their right arm to be able to see the difference between the two teams.
3. The goal is for each soccer ball to move from one side of the field to the other side of the field to score a goal. Two soccer balls will be in play, one from each team.
4. Explain no one can talk. Blindfold each human soccer ball, spin each soccer ball a few times, and then say: you must walk, blindfolded, from one side the other side.
5. If a soccer ball bumps into an opposite team member they must take 5 steps backwards away from their goal.
6. When your soccer ball bumps into you can turn and point them in the correct direction to walk. You can touch only your soccer ball's arms or shoulders

Game Life Connection: Blinded Players were Lost / God's Word Shows Us the One True God / Study God's Word to Know the One True God



2 BIBLE DISCOVERIES Gospel & Truth

War: What is war? It is usually a fight between two opposing sides. The two sides are usually in disagreement about something important. On the old days, wars were fought with swords.

Parents always tell children not to play with a blade or a knife. Why? Can you imagine how heavy and sharp a sword might be? One has to be strong to hold a sword and slay the enemy. One must practice his skills as a swordsman. A double-edged sword has both sides sharpened. It is a powerful tool or weapon.

The Bible - A Double Edged Sword: In English, the word "sword" has "word" in it! Words can work like swords to protect or to destroy! The words in the Bible are powerful. They instruct us on how to wage a war against evil and fight Satan!

The person who uses the Word of God is a soldier of God! He will defend his God and fight any evil that comes his way, using God's word! Praise God!

The bible is the account of God's actual word.

It is an amazing and Holy Book.

It reveals God's plans and purposes for mankind.

It is a story of God's love, His friendship and relationship with His people.

It shares the Good news of Salvation

Jesus Christ is the Centre of the Holy Scripture; He came to save His people from eternal death.

The Bible has 66 divine books.

It is divided into two parts – The Old Testament and the New Testament.

The Old Testament has 39 books which record God's relationship and plan with His people – Israel before Christ.

The New Testament has 27 books that record God's love, His plan of salvation and hope for the broken people.

The bible is written by 40 Godly men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

It was written in 1,500 years of time (1400 BC to AD 90).

The authors were different: They were shepherds, farmers, tent-makers, physicians,

fishermen, taxman, priests, philosophers and kings.

Every one of them was filled by the Holy Spirit with oneness of mind and spirit.

The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.

The Bible speaks to us when we read it.

Read the Bible every morning, and at bedtime.

Quote the Bible to people that you meet.

Remember, The Bible is the Living Word of a Living God!



3 LIFE CONNECTIONS

Memory Verse: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness." 2 Timothy 3:16

*** GAME *** Why were you so quiet? (we were told not to talk) Raise your hand if you were the "human soccer ball," how did it feel to be blindfolded? If your teammates spoke words to you would it have been easier? Boys and girls, that is what the Bible is! It is God's words spoken to you!

*** BIBLE *** What is God's word good for? [Ask the same question several times] (teaching, rebuke, correction, training in righteousness) Boys and girls God word says if we hide God's word in our heart, memorize God's word, we will be reminded not to sin against God.

*** LIFE *** Repeat after me: "God, thank you for your Holy Word, the Bible. God may I memorize many many of our words. Holy Spirit show me the words, the verse, to memorize **pause**. Jesus please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

Worship Song: Sing a song or two together.

Reinforcement (Optional) – Ask each student to quote the memory verse. Distribute Bibles to those in need, if you haven't done so already.

Books of The Old Testament (39)

- 1. Genesis**
- 2. Exodus**
- 3. Leviticus**
- 4. Numbers**
- 5. Deuteronomy**
- 6. Joshua**
- 7. Judges**
- 8. Ruth**
- 9. 1 Samuel**
- 10. 2 Samuel**
- 11. 1 Kings**
- 12. 2 Kings**
- 13. 1 Chronicles**
- 14. 2 Chronicles**
- 15. Ezra**
- 16. Nehemiah**
- 17. Esther**
- 18. Job**
- 19. Psalms**
- 20. Proverbs**
- 21. Ecclesiastes**
- 22. Song of Solomon**
- 23. Isaiah**
- 24. Jeremiah**
- 25. Lamentations**
- 26. Ezekiel**
- 27. Daniel**
- 28. Hosea**
- 29. Joel**
- 30. Amos**
- 31. Obadiah**
- 32. Jonah**
- 33. Micah**
- 34. Nahum**
- 35. Habakkuk**
- 36. Zephaniah**
- 37. Haggai**
- 38. Zechariah**
- 39. Malachi**

Books of the New Testament (27)

1. Matthew
2. Mark
3. Luke
4. John
5. Acts (of the Apostles)
6. Romans
7. 1 Corinthians
8. 2 Corinthians
9. Galatians
10. Ephesians
11. Philippians
12. Colossians
13. 1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians
14. 1 Timothy
15. 2 Timothy
16. Titus
17. Philemon
18. Hebrews
19. James
20. 1 Peter
21. 2 Peter

22. 1 John
23. 2 John
24. 3 John
25. Jude
26. Revelation

The Disciples of Jesus (12)

1. Peter
2. James
3. John
4. Andrew
5. Bartholomew or Nathanael
6. James, the Lesser or Younger
7. Judas
8. Jude or Thaddeus
9. Matthew or Levi
10. Philip
11. Simon the Zealot
12. Thomas

