



Genuinely
Lutheran
Learning

Sunday School Curriculum

Fifth Grade



Table of Contents

| | |
|---|-------|
| Overview and Introduction | i - v |
| Autumn | 1 |
| Lesson One - Baptism | 1 |
| Lesson Two - A Wise Ruler | 5 |
| Lesson Three - Elijah and the Birds | 6 |
| Lesson Four - Elijah and the Widow | 7 |
| Lesson Five - The Dual on Mount Carmel | 8 |
| Lesson Six - Elijah and Elisha | 9 |
| Lesson Seven - Helping a Widow | 10 |
| Lesson Eight - Elisha and the Shunemite Woman | 11 |
| Lesson Nine - Naaman the Leper | 12 |
| Lesson Ten - Josiah | 14 |
| Winter | 16 |
| Lesson Eleven - Esther | 16 |
| Lesson Twelve - One True God | 18 |
| Lesson Thirteen - Spending the Night with Lions | 19 |
| Lesson Fourteen - Jonah | 20 |
| Preface to Lesson Fifteen - The Old and New Testaments | 21 |
| Lesson Fifteen - Hail, Mary! | 21 |
| Lesson Sixteen - The Birth of Jesus | 23 |
| Lesson Seventeen - Angels and Shepherds / Simeon and Anna | 24 |
| Lesson Eighteen - The Wise Men Bring Gifts / Escape from King Herod | 26 |
| Lesson Nineteen - Young Jesus in the Temple | 28 |
| Lesson Twenty - Jesus's Baptism / Calling the Disciples | 30 |
| Spring | 32 |
| Lesson Twenty-One - Water into Wine | 32 |
| Lesson Twenty-Two - Sermon on the Mount | 34 |
| Lesson Twenty-Three - The Centurion | 36 |
| Lesson Twenty-Four - Jesus Heals a Paralytic | 38 |
| Lesson Twenty-Five - Jesus Goes Sailing | 40 |
| Lesson Twenty-Six - Jesus Heals a Woman and a Girl | 42 |
| Lesson Twenty-Seven - Gone Fishing | 44 |
| Lesson Twenty-Eight - A Picnic for over Five Thousand | 46 |
| Lesson Twenty-Nine - Jesus Walks on Water | 48 |
| Lesson Thirty - Jesus Heals a Blind Man | 50 |
| Acknowledgments | 52 |

Welcome to Genuinely Lutheran Learning's Sunday School Curriculum

The following overview and introduction to this curriculum provide essential knowledge to utilize this unique learning opportunity. Please read it carefully in order to make full use of this material.



I. Goals and Objectives

1. The Genuinely Lutheran Learning Sunday School Curriculum seeks to:

- A. Provide a basic knowledge of many important Bible stories
- B. Provide a basic knowledge of elements of Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*
- C. Lay a solid foundation for entry into catechism / confirmation instruction
- D. Offer maximum learning for children with minimal preparation by teachers
- E. Offer children and teachers opportunities to tailor lessons to each congregation's needs
- F. Offer a curriculum with rich learning experiences *free of charge*

2. The Genuinely Lutheran Learning Sunday School Curriculum hopes to:

- A. Assist, equip, and encourage each child and teacher to communicate the Word of God confidently and competently to other people as a witness to God's love revealed to us in Jesus Christ, his Son and our Lord.

II. Textbook and Catechetical Materials

1. Textbook(s)

The textbook for this Sunday School Curriculum is not the curriculum itself but the Bible. With the aid of the curriculum, children and teachers are led through the given Bible stories twice. In grades/years one through three (1 - 3), both the Old Testament and the New Testament are covered. Then, in grades/years four through six (4 - 6), the same material is learned a second time but more in-depth. Again, the Bible is the textbook.

- A. School grades/years one through three (1- 3) use *The Beginner's Bible* as their primary textbook:

The Beginner's Bible - Timeless Children's Stories, a Zonderkidz publication is produced by Zondervan of Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2005. This children's Bible is readily available online or at Christian bookstores. (Note: An earlier version of *The Beginner's Bible* was published by Zonderkidz in 1989. As most of the stories in both versions are the same, with the exception of accurate page references, this earlier edition could be used for most of the GLL Sunday School Curriculum.)

- B. School grades/years four through six (4 - 6) use a regular Bible as their primary textbook:

A regular Bible, with the version to be selected by individual congregations or individual Sunday school teachers, is the text for the second, more in-depth study of the stories in the curriculum. Teachers are encouraged to continue to use *The Beginner's Bible* for its easy overview of the stories and for its colorful illustrations.

The curriculum itself uses biblical material from the *Revised Standard Version* (RSV), the *New Revised Standard Version* (NRSV), and the *New International Version* (NIV), mainly for the memory verses. Other Bible versions may be used for the memory verses.

2. Catechetical Material

The catechetical material is paraphrased or translated from Martin Luther's *Small and Large Catechisms* as found in the ninth edition of the *Bekennnisschriften der evangelisch-lutherischen Kirche* (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1982), published in English either as *The Book of Concord* or *The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*, depending on the edition.

III. Curriculum Outline

1. The curriculum is, as indicated, based on six age groupings: Grades or years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, with an approximate age range of 5 to 12 years.
2. For each grade, the Sunday school material comprises 30 lessons divided into three 10 lesson terms covering the periods Autumn, Winter, and Spring.
3. The first lesson of each grade/year begins with the topic of baptism and seeks annually to communicate to each child the centrality of baptism for Lutheran faith and theology. As Luther once wrote, "Whoever has crawled out of the water of baptism can boast, that he (she) has been consecrated a priest, bishop, and pope, although not everyone is suited to exercise such an office" (WA 6: 408, 11-13).
4. The subsequent lessons are based on biblical stories and are supplemented with catechetical material, drawn chiefly from the *Lord's Prayer* (Grades 1 and 4), the *Ten Commandments* (Grades 2 and 5), and the *Apostles' Creed* (Grades 3 and 6). As indicated above, each lesson is accompanied by a memory verse taken from the Bible (RSV or NRSV or NIV) and, where possible, by a craft.
5. Repetition of lesson material for the grades 1 and 4, 2 and 5, and 3 and 6 is intentional to reinforce learning. Memory verses, however, are not repeated and will be assigned per individual grade/year with the intention of expanding each child's mastery of biblical material.
6. The format is flexible to allow deviation from the curriculum to prepare for Christmas and Easter children's services and for "Ask the Pastor" lessons as negotiated between the teachers and the pastor.

IV. Curriculum Explanation by Section

1. Curriculum Logo

The curriculum logo incorporates Luther's Rose and the words "Truth - Christ - Freedom - Being Lutheran."



A. About his rose, Luther wrote,

The first thing expressed in my seal is a cross, black, within the heart, to put me in mind that faith in Christ crucified saves us. "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness."

Now, although the cross is black, mortified, and intended to cause pain, yet it does not change the colour of the heart, does not destroy nature- i.e., does not kill, but keeps alive. "For the just shall live by faith," -by faith in the Saviour.

But this heart is fixed upon the centre of a white rose, to show that faith causes joy, consolation and peace. The rose is white, not red, because white is the ideal colour of all angels and blessed spirits.

This rose, moreover, is fixed in a sky-coloured background, to denote that such joy of faith in the spirit is but an earnest beginning of heavenly joy to come, as anticipated and held by hope, though not yet revealed.

And around this ground base is a golden ring, to signify that such bliss in heaven is endless, and more precious than all joys and treasures, since gold is the best and most precious metal. Christ, our dear Lord, He will give grace unto eternal life.

B. About the words "Truth - Christ - Freedom - Being Lutheran":

In the course of 1517-1518, the young monk *Martin Luder* began to change the spelling of his name to *Martin Luther* to reflect the Greek word *eleutheros* meaning "free." John 8:32 says that "the truth will make you free." When *Martin Luder* learned of the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ, that sinners are made right with God by faith alone, he was set *free (eleutheros)* to live for Christ alone. Thus, "Being Lutheran" is first and foremost being like Luther, being set free from the powers of sin, death, and evil to live by faith alone in the truth of the gospel and in those truths congruent with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Taken together, the curriculum's logo is meant to signify that Christian freedom in Christ is at the heart of the Lutheran faith and witness to the liberating power of Christ's gospel.

2. Teacher Preparation

The curriculum is designed to save teachers much time and energy trying to navigate and understand complicated lessons. All that is required of teachers is to read each lesson's story in *The Beginner's Bible*, to read the same story in greater context and depth in their own Bibles, and to use the discussion questions and suggestions to guide them through each lesson. That is it.

3. Memory Verses

The memory verses seek to reiterate the lesson of the day by quoting Bible verses from the story itself or from passages with a related message. These verses can be copied and pasted from the curriculum to paper or card or other media as creatively as teachers desire. Teachers know their pupils best. So, teachers are encouraged to help children learn as creatively as teachers are able. Please, have fun creating ways for children to learn their memory verses.

4. Craft / Activity (optional)

Different settings and different teacher abilities and aptitudes will determine whether each lesson is or is not accompanied by a craft or activity. A craft or activity allows teachers the opportunity to use their creative abilities to help reinforce the message of each lesson. Teachers are encouraged to use their own resources or supplemental books or the Internet to find and develop crafts and activities for each lesson. For example, one could copy and paste the memory verse to a sheet of paper and asked the children to draw a fitting picture. Alternatively, one might use words from the story or memory verse to make a word search or crossword puzzle with an online resource. Also, one might recall an activity from one's own Sunday school and introduce it to a new generation. If one does not consider oneself to be very creative, try team teaching with someone who is and let her or him assume responsibility for this portion of each lesson. If in doubt, one might simply ask the children what activities they might like to do. Again, please be creative and have fun.

5. Catechetical Material

The catechetical material, namely the *Lord's Prayer*, the *Ten Commandments*, and the *Apostle's Creed*, are respectively stressed in grades 1 and 4, 2 and 5, and 3 and 6. The Autumn term allows the children to explore the catechetical material for themselves. The Winter term introduces them to Luther's explanations of the material mainly from his *Small Catechism*. The Spring term then gives the children the opportunity to relate the catechetical material to the Bible stories. Where fitting, portions of Luther's *Large Catechism* are also incorporated into the lessons.

6. Each Grade's/Year's Cover Page and this Overview/Introduction

- A. For ease of use, it is suggested that each grade's/year's lessons are printed and placed in a ringed binder or other suitable folder. Each grade/year of the curriculum begins with a cover page which can be placed in the binder or slotted into the front cover of so designed binders. This allows for easy identification of various grade levels.
- B. Teachers are expected to read the information in this Overview and Introduction. Those responsible for parish education in any given congregation are encouraged to guide their teachers through the Overview and Introduction to orient them to the curriculum's goals, objectives, and logistics. Such orientation also allows time for sharing of ideas and teaching strategies.

7. Cost of the Curriculum

The Genuinely Lutheran Learning Sunday School Curriculum is offered free of charge. At great cost to himself, Jesus Christ gave himself to us for our salvation. In that spirit, please offer this material richly and freely to the children in your care. The entire curriculum is available online at St. Luke's Lutheran Church's website (address below) under "Curricula" on the "Academy" page. Each teacher should also be supplied with the curriculum in electronic (CD or DVD) and print formats. Please feel free to copy and paste any portion of the curriculum on to other media (paper, card, disk, etc) as needed for teaching purposes. This curriculum is, however, under copyright and is not for sale, resale, or gainful distribution for any reason or any purpose by anyone at any time.

8. Feedback

The developers of the curriculum welcome feedback on all aspects of the lessons, from typing to format to content. Please communicate feedback via the "Contact Us" page on the website of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, La Mesa, California, USA available on the Internet at <http://www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org>

Pastor Mark D. Menacher, PhD
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
5150 Wilson Street
La Mesa, CA 91942
USA
Tel. 619-463-6633

Sunday School Curriculum Fifth Grade



Autumn Lesson One - Baptism

(Teacher Preparation - read Mark chapter 1 and Luke chapter 3 or Matthew chapter 3)

Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children which of them has been baptized and what they think baptism is and means.

A. Read Matthew 3:1-17 See *Beginners Bible* - "John Baptizes Jesus" pages 303-307

Discussion Questions:

1. What was John the Baptizer telling people to do?
2. Whom did John say was coming soon?
3. What can you easily do to be like John?
4. What happened when Jesus was baptized and what did God say about Jesus?
5. What happened when each of you were baptized?

B. Memory Verse

The Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:22 - NRSV)

C. Catechetical Material - *The Sacrament of Holy Baptism*

Discussion Questions:

1. What is baptism?

Answer: Baptism is not simple water alone, but it is water grasped in God's command and bound with his Word.

What then is this Word of God?

Answer: In Matthew 28:19, "Go into all the world, teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

2. What does baptism give or what use is it?

Answer: It effects forgiveness of sins, redeems from death and the devil, and gives eternal blessedness to all who believe as the Word and promise of God announce.

What are the Word and promise of God?

Answer: In Mark 16:16, our Lord Christ said, "Whoever believes and is baptized is blessed; but whoever does not believe is condemned."

3. How can water do such things:

Answer: Water certainly does not do it but the Word of God, which is with and about the water, and faith, which trusts this Word of God in the water. For without God's Word it is plain water and not baptism, but with God's Word it is baptism. That is a water of life, rich in grace, and a "bath of new birth in the Holy Spirit," as St. Paul says to Titus in 3:5-8: Through the bath of rebirth and renewal of the Holy Spirit, which he has poured out upon us richly in Jesus Christ, our saviour, so that we by this grace may be justified and become heirs with hope of eternal life. This is certainly true.

4. What then does such baptism with water mean?

Answer: It means that the old Adam in us shall be drown through daily contrition and repentance and die with all sins and evil desires, and again a new human being shall daily come forth and rise who lives eternally in righteousness and purity before God.

Where is this written?

Answer: St. Paul in the sixth chapter [6:4] to the Romans says, "We are all buried with Christ in death through baptism so that as Christ is raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too shall walk in a new life."

C. Craft / Activity (optional) or **D. Baptismal Promise**

If you were baptized as a baby or as a child, your parents (guardian) and other loved ones made promises to God that you would be raised to become a Christian. Now that you are older, you can also make those same promises yourself.

The teacher should recite:

"In Christian love, you were was brought to church to be baptized with water and the Holy Spirit. At baptism, water was placed on you three times in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. At baptism, your parents (guardian) and loved

ones promised to bring you to the services of God's house and to teach you the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Apostles Creed.

"Now that you are older, do you also promise to come to the services of God's house and to learn the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Apostles' Creed?"

If so, answer, "I do."

Also at your baptism, your parents (guardian) and loved ones promised to reject sin and to confess the faith of the church.

The teacher should recite:

"Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?"

If so, answer, "I do."

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

And in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
born of the Virgin Mary
suffered under Pontius Pilate
crucified, died, and was buried
descended into hell
on the third day he rose from the dead
ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,
whence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit
the holy Christian church
the communion of saints
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Our Father who art in heaven.
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation.
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

Lesson Two - A Wise Ruler

(Teacher Preparation - Read I Kings chapters 1 - 10)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what it means to be wise. Ask the children what the opposite of wise is. Ask the children who is the wisest person whom they know. Ask the children how they might be wise.

A. Read I Kings 1:32-37; 3:3-14; 6:1-13

See *Beginners Bible Story* - "The Wise King" pages 194-200

Discussion Questions:

1. Whose son was Solomon?
2. What kind of gift did Solomon ask from God?
3. What kind of gifts might you ask of God?
4. What would you want to know from a wise person?
5. What kind of a house did Solomon build?
6. How do you and your parents (guardian) and siblings make your home a special place for God?

B. Memory Verse

From the proverbs of Solomon: "A wise child makes a glad father, but a foolish child is a mother's grief" (Proverbs 10:1 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

First Commandment: "*You shall have no other gods.*"

1. Ask the children to write a definition what they think this commandment means.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Three - Elijah and the Birds

(Teacher Preparation - Read I Kings chapters 16 and 17)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children who tells them what things are right and wrong to do. Ask them what happens if they do things that they are not supposed to do. Ask them what happens if they do not do what they are supposed to do.

A. Read I Kings 16:29 - 17:7 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "God Watches Over Elijah" pages 201-205

Discussion Questions:

1. What do people do when they forget about God?
2. How many true Gods are there?
3. Whom did God choose to tell the king and people what God wanted?
4. What happened when King Ahab did not listen to Elijah?
5. How did God take care of Elijah?

B. Memory Verse

"Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds!" (Luke 12:24 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Second Commandment: *"You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain."*

1. Ask the children what it might mean to misuse God's name.
2. Ask if they have ever heard anyone misuse God's name.
3. Ask them to write a definition how they might tell others not to misuse God's name.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Note to the Teacher: You may wish to consider combining this lesson with the following lesson about Elijah.

Lesson Four - Elijah and the Widow

(Teacher Preparation - Read I Kings chapter 17)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what they do when they are really thirsty. Ask them how they might feel if they were really thirsty and had nothing to drink. Ask the children what happens to a houseplant if it is not watered. Ask the children what they would do if it did not rain and they had no water or food.

A. Read I Kings 17:8-16

See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Elijah Helps a Widow" pages 206-208

Discussion Questions:

1. Who took care of Elijah when the brook dried up and he had no water or food?
2. How did God provide food and water for Elijah?
3. Why did the woman in Sidon hesitate to share her food with Elijah?
4. Why did the woman not run out of flour and oil when she made food for Elijah and her family?
5. What do you share with people who do not have enough food or clothing?

B. Memory Verse

"So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'" (Matthew 6:31 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Third Commandment: *"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."*

1. Ask the children what Christians mean by the "Sabbath day."
2. Ask the children to write a definition how Christians should try to keep it holy.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Five - The Dual on Mount Carmel

(Teacher Preparation - Read I Kings chapter 18)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children how they think God might look and sound. Ask the children what they know of other religions and of the gods of those religions. Ask them why people worship other gods. Ask the children how they might explain to someone else that the God whom we worship is the true God.

A. Read I Kings 18:20-40 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Fire From Heaven" pages 209-215

Discussion Questions:

1. What kind of god did King Ahab want his people to worship?
2. How did Elijah want to prove whose god was the true God?
3. What happened when people prayed to Baal?
4. What reasons did Elijah suggest when the prayers to Baal were not answered?
5. Why did Elijah pour water on the altar to his God?
6. What happened when Elijah prayed to God?
7. Which of the two was the true God?

B. Memory Verse

"Then Elijah commanded them, 'Seize the prophets of Baal. Don't let anyone get away'" (I Kings 18:40 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Fourth Commandment: "*Honor your father and your mother.*"

1. Ask the children what they think that it means to honor their mother and father.
2. Ask them why they think that this is important.
3. Ask the children to write a definition what they think this commandment means.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Six - Elijah and Elisha

(Teacher Preparation - Read I Kings chapter 19 and II Kings chapter 2)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what they do when they need help at home or at school and church. Ask the children who helps them the most. Ask them how their friends help them and how they help their friends. Ask the children how others might benefit from helping them or how they have benefitted from helping someone else.

A. Read I Kings 19:19-21; II Kings 2:13

See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Chariot of Fire" pages 216-221

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did Elijah need a helper and who became his helper?
2. Where did Elijah take Elisha and how did they cross the River Jordan?
3. What did Elisha want from Elijah before he left?
4. What did Elijah and Elisha see just before Elijah went into heaven?
5. What did Elisha see and how did this benefit him?
6. How did Elisha know that he had Elijah's power from God?

B. Memory Verse

"The company of the prophets from Jericho, who were watching, said 'The spirit of Elijah is resting on Elisha.' And they went to meet him and bowed to the ground before him" (II Kings 2:15 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Fifth Commandment: "*You shall not kill.*"

1. Ask the children what this commandment means.
2. Ask them how one might "kill" without physically hurting another person.
3. Ask the children to write a definition what they think this commandment means.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Seven - Helping a Widow

(Teacher Preparation - Read II Kings chapter 4)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children how they pay for the things that they need. Ask the children how they receive or earn money. Ask the children how they might feel if their parents (guardian) had to exchange them, instead of money, to pay pay their household bills. Ask the children how they might feel if they were traded to pay the household bills.

A. Read II Kings 4:1-7 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Jars of Oil" pages 222-225

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did a woman come one day to Elisha?
2. What would happen if the woman could not pay her bills?
3. What did Elisha tell the woman to collect from her neighbors?
4. What happened when the woman filled jars with oil?
5. Why do you think that the woman's oil never ran out?

B. Memory Verse

"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows" (Psalm 23:5 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Sixth Commandment: "*You shall not commit adultery.*"

1. Ask the children if they know what adultery is.
2. Ask the children to write a definition what they think this commandment means.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Eight - Elisha and the Shunemite Woman

(Teacher Preparation - Read II Kings chapter 4)

Opening Prayer (by teacher)



Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children where they sleep if they stay overnight at someone's house. Ask the children where guests sleep when they stay at their house. Ask the children what they like best about staying at someone else's house. Ask them what they like best about having guests stay at their house. Ask them how they thank someone when they have stayed at that person's house.

A. Read *II Kings 4:8-17* See *Beginners Bible Story* - "A Room on the Roof ..." pp. 228-232

Discussion Questions:

1. How did Elisha come to know a woman at Shunem?
2. What did the woman do for Elisha when he came to visit?
3. What did Elisha have in his room on the roof?
4. What did the woman from Shunem not have that she wanted to have?
5. What did Elisha promise the woman that she would receive?

B. Memory Verse

Jesus says, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me" (Mark 9:37 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Seventh Commandment: *"You shall not steal."*

1. Ask the children if anyone has taken something from them without permission.
2. Ask the children if they have taken something belonging to someone else without permission.
3. Ask the children to write a definition what they think this commandment means.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Nine - Naaman the Leper

(Teacher Preparation - Read II Kings chapter 5)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children how they feel when they are ill. Ask them how they might feel if they had an illness that could not be cured. Ask them how they might feel if they had an illness that could not be cured and that meant that they had to stay away from other people. Ask them how they might feel if not well and alone.

A. Read II Kings 5:1-15 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Naaman Is Healed" pages 230-234

Discussion Questions:

1. What kind of a man was Naaman?
2. What was Naaman's connection with God's chosen people, the Israelites?
3. Have you heard of leprosy?
[It is a bacterial disease that affects the skin and nerves, causing mutilations and deformities. Until antibiotics there was no cure, and even today it is not always easily treated.]
4. Whom did the servant girl want Naaman to visit?
5. What did Elisa tell Naaman to do?
6. What happened when Naaman listened to Elisha?
7. What might you do if God asked you to do something?

B. Memory Verse

"While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, 'Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.' Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!' And immediately the leprosy left him" (Luke 5:12-13 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Eighth Commandment: "*You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*"

1. Ask the children what "bearing false witness" means.
2. Ask the children how they feel if other people say untrue things about them.
3. Ask them if it is right to say untrue things about people.
4. Ask the children to write a definition what they think this commandment means.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Ten - Josiah

(Teacher Preparation - Read II Kings chapters 22 and 23)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children who makes the rules at home. Ask the children about a time that they forgot the rules. Ask them how their parents (guardian) might have reacted when they forgot the rules. Ask them about a time when they might have got in trouble when they forgot the rules. Ask the children what kind of rules God has for us to follow.

A. Read II Kings 22:1 - 22:3

See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Boy King Josiah"
pages 235-239

Discussion Questions:

1. What kind of a king was Josiah and why was he good?
2. What did Josiah tell his workers to do?
3. What did a priest find in the temple one day?
4. How was a book then different from a book today? [It was a scroll.]
5. What did Josiah tell his people that they had to do?
6. How did God react to Josiah's actions?

B. Memory Verse

"Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the LORD as he did - with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength, in accordance with all the Law of Moses" (II Kings 23:25 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Ninth Commandment: *"You shall not covet your neighbor's house."*

Tenth Commandment: *"You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's."*

1. Ask the children if they have ever wanted something from someone else that they just took it.
2. Ask them how they felt if someone wanted something from them that they just took it.
3. Ask them if they know that "to covet" means.

4. Ask the children to write a definition what they think this commandment means.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Winter Lesson Eleven - Esther



(Teacher Preparation - Read Esther chapters 1-10)

Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what it might be like to live in another country. Ask them how they might feel if they were not wanted in that country. Then, ask the children what they think it might be like of an army from another country invaded the United States and their hometown. Ask the children how they might react if the army took some of their relatives or friends away from their hometown to the army's country. Ask them how they might feel if they were taken away to the army's country and help prisoner. Ask the children in which country does God live.

A. Read Esther 2:1-11, 15-18; 3:1-11; 7:1-10

See *Beginners Bible Story* "The Brave Queen" pages 240-246

Discussion Questions:

1. Where did the Jewish people normally live?
2. Where is Persia in relation to Israel?
3. What country is Persia known as today? (Answer: Iran)
4. Can you think of other times when people called the Jews "bad" and wanted to "get rid" of them?

B. Memory Verse

"To these four young men God gave knowledge and skill in every aspect of literature and wisdom; Daniel also had insight into all visions and dreams" (Daniel 1:17 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

First Commandment: "*You shall have no other gods.*"

What does this mean? **

Answer: We shall fear, love, and trust God above all things.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

** The meanings for the Ten Commandments in the second portion of the year are taken

from Luther's *Small Catechism*.

Lesson Twelve - One True God

(Teacher Preparation - Read Daniel chapter 3)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what happens when things catch fire. Ask the children what sort of things they have seen burning and what happened to them as they burned. Ask the children if they have ever touched something too hot and got hurt or burned and how that felt.

A. Read Daniel 3:1-30 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Fiery Furnace" pages 247-250

Discussion Questions:

1. What did the king of Babylon (Nebuchadnezzar) want people to worship?
2. What would happen if anyone refused to worship the king's statue?
3. Whom did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego want to worship and what did they do?
4. How did the king react to this and what did he do?
5. What happened to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fire?
6. Why did the king see four people in the fire instead of three?
7. How did the king react when Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out of the fire?

B. Memory Verse

"Then Nebuchadnezzar said, 'Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God'" (Daniel 3:28 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Second Commandment: "*You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*"

What does this mean?

Answer: We shall fear and love God so that we do not use his name to curse, swear, practice magic, lie, or deceive, but rather use his name to call upon, pray, praise, and thank God in all times of need.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Thirteen - Spending the Night with Lions

(Teacher Preparation - Read Daniel chapter 6)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what sort of wild animals that they have seen on television or in a zoo. Ask them if they have seen lions or tigers eating, either in pictures or at a zoo. Ask them if they can recall how large the mouth and teeth of tigers or lions might have been. Ask them what might happen if a lion tried to eat a person. Ask them if they would want to be in the same room or cage with a lion.

A. Read Daniel 6:1-28 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Daniel and the Lions" pages 251-256

Discussion Questions: [At this time, Babylon had a new king named Darius.]

1. What kind of a man was Daniel and what plans did the king have for Daniel?
2. Why did some people not like Daniel?
3. How did those who did not like Daniel try to get him in trouble with the king?
4. What did Daniel do when the king made a law that people could only pray to him?
5. What did the king do to Daniel when Daniel prayed to God?
6. Why was Daniel not eaten by the lions and how did the king react?

B. Memory Verse

"Daniel then said to the king, 'O king, live forever! My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong'" (Daniel 6:21-22 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Third Commandment: "*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*"

What does this mean?

Answer: We shall fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and his Word, but rather keep his Word holy, hear it gladly, and learn it.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Fourteen - Jonah

(Teacher Preparation - Read Jonah chapters 1-3)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children how they know what they should and should not do. Ask them to say how people tell them that they should not do bad things. Ask them what sort of bad things people (parent, guardian, teacher, coach etc) have told them not to do. Ask them why people do not want them to do bad things (i.e. to keep themselves and others safe).

A. Read Jonah 1:1 - 3:10 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Inside a Fish ..." pages 257-264

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did God tell Jonah to go to Ninevah?
2. What did Jonah do instead of going to Ninevah?
3. Why did a storm come when Jonah was in the ship?
4. How did the sailors stop the storm?
5. Why did Jonah do when he was in the fish?
6. What did Jonah and the people in Ninevah do then?

B. Memory Verse

"When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened" (Jonah 3:10 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Fourth Commandment: "*Honor your father and your mother.*"

What does this mean?

Answer: We shall fear and love God so that we neither despise nor anger our parents and authority figures, but rather hold them in honor, serve and obey them, love and value them.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Preface to Lesson Fifteen - The Old and New Testaments

At this point in the Bible, the pupils move from the Old Testament to the New Testament. Ask them what they think that these two terms mean. The word "testament" means a binding statement or agreement, such as a person's will or a covenant made between people or between God and people. The Old Testament refers to God's will and statements for God's people given through the law (commandments) and the prophets before Jesus. The New Testament refers to God's will and statements made in Jesus, his son, and later through Jesus's followers. The Old Testament was written mainly in the Hebrew language, and the New Testament is written in the Greek language.

Lesson Fifteen - Hail, Mary!

(Teacher Preparation - Read Luke chapter 1)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what an angel is. Ask the children what the word "angel" means [angel means messenger]. Ask the children why angels are important. Ask the children how they might think and feel if an angel appeared to them. Ask them what they think that an angel might say to them.

A. Read Luke 1:26-38

See *Beginners Bible Story* - "An Angel Visits Mary" pages 266-270

Discussion Questions:

1. In the story, what was the angel's name and what did he do?
2. What did Gabriel say to Mary that made her afraid?
3. What message did Gabriel have for Mary?
4. How did Mary react to the news that she was to have a baby from God?
5. What did Mary promise to do for God?

B. Memory Verse

"The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God'" (Luke 1:35 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Fifth Commandment: "*You shall not kill.*"

What does this mean?

Answer: We shall fear and love God so that we do neither injure nor harm our neighbor's life, but rather help and promote him in all life's needs.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Sixteen - The Birth of Jesus

(Teacher Preparation - Read Luke chapter 2)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what they like best about sleeping in their own bed. Ask the children where they sleep if they go camping or stay over at a friend's home. Ask the children to describe what it looks, sounds, and smells like in a barn where animals live. Ask them what it might be like to sleep in such a barn and why it would be different from sleeping in their own bed.

A. Read Luke 2:1-7 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Baby Jesus Is Born" pages 271-276

Discussion Questions:

1. Who wanted to get married in this story?
2. Why did Joseph go to Bethlehem? [You may mention that Caesar was undertaking a census.]
3. Why was it hard for Mary and Joseph to find a place to stay?
4. Where did they sleep and what happened to them?
5. Where did Jesus sleep?

B. Memory Verse

Third Grade

"While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:5-6 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Sixth Commandment: "*You shall not commit adultery.*"

What does this mean?

Answer: We shall fear and love God so that we in Word and deed lead pure and chaste lives, with each one loving and honoring one's own spouse.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Seventeen - Angels and Shepherds / Simeon and Anna

(Teacher Preparation - Read Luke chapter 2)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what they know about sheep. Ask the children what a shepherd is [from "sheep herder"] and does. Ask them why sheep need shepherds. Ask them why they think that the shepherds needed to watch their flocks especially at night. Ask them whom shepherds might expect to meet in the night while watching their sheep.

A. Read Luke 2:8-20 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Shepherds Visit" pages 277-281

Discussion Questions:

1. Instead of wild animals or sheep rustlers, whom did the shepherds see when Jesus was born?
2. Why were the shepherds afraid?
3. What did the angel tell the shepherds?
4. How did the shepherds react to seeing and hearing the angel?
5. What did the shepherds do when they saw baby Jesus?
6. What did Mary think about all this?

A. Read Luke 2:25-38 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Simeon and Anna Meet Baby Jesus" pages 282-285

Discussion Questions:

1. Why were Simeon and Anna waiting in the temple to see Jesus?
2. How did Simeon and Anna react to seeing Jesus?
3. Why do you think that Jesus is special?

B. Memory Verse

"So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them" (Luke 2:16-18 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - Ten Commandments

Seventh Commandment: *"You shall not steal."*

What does this mean?

Answer: We shall fear and love God so that we do neither take our neighbor's money or goods nor acquire them by deceptive means and trade, but rather help our neighbor to improve and protect his or her income and property.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Eighteen - The Wise Men Bring Gifts / Escape from King Herod

(Teacher Preparation - Read Matthew chapter 2)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what they know about the stars in the sky. Ask the children what we call people who know about the stars [astronomers - literally "star rulers"]. Ask the children what astronomers might be like. Ask them if they might also be wise. Ask them what it means to be wise.

A. Read Matthew 2:1-12 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "The Bright Star and Three Visitors" pages 286-290

Discussion Questions:

1. How did God get the wise men to come to baby Jesus?
2. How did King Herod react when the wise men asked him for directions to baby Jesus?
3. What did the wise men do when they found Jesus?
4. Why did the wise men not return to King Herod and tell him where Jesus was?

A. Read Matthew 2:12-23 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "An Angry King" pages 291-295

Discussion Questions:

1. Why was King Herod upset when the wise men did not return and tell him where Jesus was?
2. How did God warn Jesus' parents to keep Jesus safe?
3. Where did they go to be safe, and where did his family live when it was safe to return?

B. Memory Verse

"On entering the house, they [wise men] saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Matthew 2:11 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Eighth Commandment: "*You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*"

Answer: We shall fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, nor betray, slander, or harm our neighbor's reputation, but rather we shall

excuse our neighbor, speak well of our neighbor, and regard everything for the best.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Nineteen - Young Jesus in the Temple

(Teacher Preparation - Read Luke chapter 2)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what they like to do with their family on vacation. Ask them if they ever go on vacation with friends or relatives or other families. Ask them what they like best and least about vacationing with other people besides their family. Ask them how they might feel if they got separated from their family while on vacation and how their parents (guardian) might feel too.

A. Read Luke 2:41-52 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Jesus is Lost!" pages 296-302

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think that Jesus's family went to Jerusalem with many others?
[Jerusalem was far away. There would be safety in numbers. They could help each other with the food and with looking after the many children. They could later share stories about their journey.]
2. Why do you think that Jesus could go missing without his parents noticing?
3. Why did it take so long to find Jesus?
[Would your parents (guardian) expect to find you in church if you went missing?]
4. Why did Jesus think that the temple was his father's house?

B. Memory Verse

And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" (Luke 2:49 - RSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Ninth Commandment: *"You shall not covet your neighbor's house."*

What does this mean?

Answer: We shall fear and love God so that we do not long cunningly for our neighbor's inheritance and house and acquire them with the appearance of legal right and so on, but rather be useful and helpful to him or her to keep what is his or hers.

Tenth Commandment: *"You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your*

neighbor's."

What does this mean?

Answer: We shall fear and love God so that we do not entice or drive our neighbor's spouse, servants, and livestock away nor cause them to abandon our neighbor, but rather guard them so that they remain and make their due contribution.

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Twenty - Jesus's Baptism / Calling the Disciples

(Teacher Preparation - Read Luke chapters 3, 5, and 6 and Matthew chapter 9, and additionally the suggestions in the *Beginners Bible*)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what how they like to help around the house. Ask the children how they like to help their friends. Ask the children how they like to help around school. Ask the children how they like to help around church. Ask the children what they would like to do to help Jesus. Ask them how they might know what Jesus wants them to do.

A. Read Mark 1:1-11

See *Beginners Bible* Story - "John Baptizes Jesus" pages 303-307 [review story]

Matthew 4:18-22; 9:9; 10:1-4

See *Beginners Bible* Story - "Jesus Chooses His Disciples" pages 308-313

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did Jesus need help from some good friends?
2. Who were the first two people whom Jesus asked to follow him?
3. How many men in all did Jesus ask to follow him as close friends?
4. What is another name for these men? [Disciples, which means students]
5. When did Jesus call you to follow him as his friend and disciple? [in baptism]
6. What work do you think that Jesus wants you to do and how far would you follow him?

B. Memory Verse

"Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him" (Luke 5:10b-11 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?

[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice.

If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Spring Lesson Twenty-One - Water into Wine



(Teacher Preparation - Read John chapter 2)

Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what they like best about weddings. Ask them what sort of wedding receptions they have attended. Ask them to discuss the sorts of food and what they liked eating best and least. Ask them to describe any special moments in the wedding or at the reception.

A. Read John 2:1-11

See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Jesus' First Miracle"
pages 314-317

Discussion Questions:

1. Who attended the wedding with Jesus?
2. What troubled Jesus' mother at the wedding reception?
3. What did Jesus do to solve the problem?
4. What did the wedding guests think of Jesus' wine?
5. How could Jesus do what he did?

B. Memory Verse

"This, the first of his signs [changing water to wine], Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him " (John 2:2-3 - RSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - Ten Commandments

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?

[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice.

If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*

7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Twenty-Two - Sermon on the Mount

(Teacher Preparation - Read Matthew chapters 5 and 6)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what it means to care for someone else. Ask the children how their parents (guardian) care for them. Ask them how they care for their parents (guardian). Ask them how their siblings or friends care for them. Ask them how they care for their siblings or friends. Ask them how God cares for them.

- A. Read** Read Matthew 5:1-12, 6:25-34 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Jesus Teaches on a Mountain" pages 318-321
Read Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:1-4 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "The Lord's Prayer" pages 323

Discussion Questions:

1. What sort of people came to see Jesus?
2. Why did the people want to see Jesus? [to hear him]
3. Where do the birds get their food or who feeds them?
4. Where do the flowers get their clothes or who clothes them?
5. Who takes care of all people in the world?
6. How are Matthew's and Luke's versions of the Lord's prayer similar and different?

B. Memory Verse

"When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him" (Matthew 6:7-8 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?
[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice. If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Twenty-Three - The Centurion

(Teacher Preparation - Read Matthew chapter 8)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what it means to put things in order. Ask the children what it means to order food at a restaurant or to order items from a company. Ask the children what it means to give people orders. Ask the children what generally happens at home or at school or in society when people do not follow orders (the rules). Ask them if they can think of reasons why a specialized part of society need its members, like the soldiers in the military, to follow orders.

A. Read Matthew 8:5-13 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "A Captain's Faith" pages 324-327

Discussion Questions:

1. The captain in this story is a "centurion." Can you think of how many soldiers the captain was in charge?
[The word "centurion" is like the word "century" meaning "one-hundred."]
2. Why was the centurion concerned about his servant?
3. Why did the centurion go to see Jesus?
4. Why did the centurion think Jesus could heal his servant?
5. Why did the centurion think that Jesus did not need to come to the servant to make him well?
6. What did the centurion have that helped make his servant well? [Faith in Jesus.]

B. Memory Verse

"... only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. ... When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, 'I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith'" (Luke 7:7, 9 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?
[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice. If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*

2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Twenty-Four - Jesus Heals a Paralytic

(Teacher Preparation - Read Mark chapter 2; also Matthew chapter 8 or Luke chapter 5)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what physicians and nurses do. Ask the children what they like and dislike about going to see a physician. Ask them why they have had to visit a physician. Ask the children if they have even been in hospital or visited someone sick in hospital. Ask them how they got to the physician's office or to the hospital.

A. Read Mark 1:1-12 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "A Hold in the Roof" pages 328-333

Discussion Questions:

1. Why were people crowding around the house trying to see Jesus?
2. What sort of an ambulance did the paralytic have?
[The word "ambulance" comes from the Latin word "to walk."]
3. What did the men do when they could not bring their friend to Jesus?
4. What did Jesus do for the man and how did everyone react?
5. Why is it important to pray for people who are ill?

B. Memory Verse

"When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven'" (Mark 2:5 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?

[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice.

If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*

6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Twenty-Five - Jesus Goes Sailing

(Teacher Preparation - Read Matthew chapter 8, Mark chapter 4, and Luke chapter 8)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children how far they can swim. Ask them what it might be like if they were out in a boat and the wind started to blow and waves started getting bigger. Ask the children what they might do if the boat started filling with water and they had no life jackets or flotation devices.

A. Read Matthew 8:23-27

See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Jesus Calms the Storm"
pages 334-340

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did Jesus decide to travel across the lake?
2. How did the weather change as Jesus and his friends went across the lake?
3. Who was afraid when the water got rough and water came into the boat?
4. What did Jesus' friends fear?
5. What did Jesus do to calm their fears?
6. Why did the wind and the waves obey Jesus?

B. Memory Verse

"He replied, 'You of little faith, why are you so afraid?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm."
(Matthew 8:26 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?

[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice. If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Twenty-Six - Jesus Heals a Woman and a Girl

(Teacher Preparation - Read Mark chapter 5 and Luke chapter 8 and Matthew chapter 9)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children what it is like when they are ill. Ask them what they like best and least about going to the physician when they are ill. Ask them how they might feel if they were ill and they physician could not make them better. Ask them what they might do in order to try to get better.

A. Read Mark 5:21-43 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Two Miracles" pages 340-350

Discussion Questions:

1. Why was Jairus concerned about his daughter?
2. Why were so many people crowding around Jesus?
3. Why did the woman in the story want to touch Jesus' clothing?
4. What happened when she touched Jesus' clothing?
5. Why did Jesus know that someone touched him?
6. What did Jesus tell the woman that had made her well?
7. What happened when Jesus arrived at Jairus' house?

B. Memory Verse

"Taking her by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha cumi;' which means, 'Little girl, I say to you, arise.' And immediately the girl got up and walked (she was twelve years of age), ..." (Mark 5:41-42 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?

[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice.

If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
4. *Honor your father and your mother.*

5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Twenty-Seven - Gone Fishing

(Teacher Preparation - Read Matthew chapter 13)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children when they go fishing how they know which fish are “keepers” and which need to be thrown back. Ask the children how they might get a valuable treasure. Ask them what they might trade for a very valuable pearl or precious gem. Ask the children what they can give to get into the kingdom of God.

A. Read Matthew 13:44-58

See *Beginners Bible Story* - “A Fishermen’s Net”
pages 351-356

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is it that God’s kingdom attracts many people but only some will get to stay?
2. How is the story about catching fish the life of a person who does or does not believe in God?
3. Why is God’s kingdom so valuable?
4. Why do you think that God has more to offer us than we can ever give to God?

B. Memory Verse

“And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, ‘A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house.’ And he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief” (Matthew 13:57-58 - RSV).

C. Craft / Activity (optional)

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?

[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice.

If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*

7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Twenty-Eight -A Picnic for over Five Thousand

(Teacher Preparation - Read Matthew chapter 14, Mark chapter 6, and Luke chapter 9)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children how many people they might invite to a picnic and swimming party. Ask the children what sort of food they might eat. Ask the children if they prefer to swim in a swimming pool, in a lake, or in a river. Ask which of them has ever gone water skiing. Ask them what it is or might be like to be out in a boat when the water was or is very rough. Ask the children what happens if they are too far from shore and cannot swim or cannot swim very well enough to return safely to shore.

A. Read Matthew 14:13-22 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Jesus Feeds Thousands" pages 357-363

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did Jesus feed 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish?
2. Who did Jesus' disciples find to help Jesus get the picnic started?
3. How could Jesus feed 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish?
4. What happened to the leftovers after the picnic?
5. What would you do with the leftovers from the picnic?

B. Memory Verses

"Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat" (Matthew 14:16 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?
[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice. If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*

3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Lesson Twenty-Nine - Jesus Walks on Water

(Teacher Preparation - Read Matthew chapter 14, Mark chapter 6, and Luke chapter 9)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children how many people they might invite to a picnic and swimming party. Ask the children what sort of food they might eat. Ask the children if they prefer to swim in a swimming pool, in a lake, or in a river. Ask which of them has ever gone water skiing. Ask them what it is or might be like to be out in a boat when the water was or is very rough. Ask the children what happens if they are too far from shore and cannot swim or cannot swim very well enough to return safely to shore.

A. Read Matthew 14:22-33 See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Jesus Walks on Water" pages 364-370

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did Jesus' friends (disciples) start across the lake without Jesus?
2. Why did Jesus friends have a hard time getting to the other side of the lake? How did they feel?
3. What did Jesus do to help his friends?
4. What did Peter want to do after Jesus came to the boat?
5. Why was Peter not able to do the same as Jesus did on the water?
6. What happened after Jesus rescued Peter?

B. Memory Verses

"Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?'" (Matthew 14:31 - NRSV).

C. Craft / Activity

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?
[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice. If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - The Lord's Prayer

Lesson Thirty - Jesus Heals a Blind Man

(Teacher Preparation - Read John chapter 9)



Opening Prayer (by teacher)

Opening Discussion:

-Ask the children to describe their favorite scene or picture or room, etc. Ask them what it might be like to be blind. Ask the children how they might imagine the world if they had been blind from birth. Ask for a volunteer (or more) to be blindfolded and then to find an object in the room (try not to draw attention to the object prior to blindfolding). You may also invite others pupils to call out directions to the blindfolded person. Discuss how it felt following directions and the faith need to try and find the object.

A. Read John 9:1-12

See *Beginners Bible Story* - "Jesus Heals a Blind Beggar" pages 371-374

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you think the blind man in the story lived his life?
2. Why do you think that Jesus wanted to help the blind man?
3. What do you think of how Jesus cured the blind man?
4. What did the blind man do after he could see?

B. Memory Verses

"Jesus said, 'For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind'" (John 9:39 - NIV).

C. Craft / Activity

D. Catechetical Material - *Ten Commandments*

Which Commandment?

-Which of the Ten Commandments best fits this story and why?

[The children select one or more of the commandments and explain their choice.

If no commandment seems to fit the story, then the First Commandment is always the right answer.]

1. *You shall have no other gods.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
3. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
4. *Honor your father and your mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*

6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

E. Closing Prayer - *The Lord's Prayer*

Acknowledgments

Elements of the baptismal service found in lesson one of each grade/year have been adapted from the *Lutheran Book of Worship* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House / Philadelphia: Board of Publication Lutheran Church in America, 1978).

Elements of Luther's *Small* and *Large Catechism* have been paragraphed or translated from the ninth edition of the *Bekennnisschriften der evangelisch-lutherischen Kirche* (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1982).

Bible verses from the *Revised Standard Version* (RSV), the *New Revised Standard Version* (NRSV), and the *New International Version* (NIV) have been incorporated as published in *The Holy Scriptures for Windows* (on compact disc), version 1.02 (Independence, Missouri: Christian Technologies, 1995).