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# Beginner

Leader/Teacher Guide

A Sabbath School Resource for Leaders/Teachers of Beginners  
GraceLink® Sabbath School Curriculum

Year B, First Quarter

[www.gracelink.net](http://www.gracelink.net)

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## Special thanks to . . .

Special thanks to **Bailey Gillespie** and **Stuart Tyner**, of the John Hancock Center for Youth Ministry at La Sierra University, for initial work in planning the GraceLink curriculum, and to **Patricia A. Habada** for coordinating the GraceLink project and seeing it to completion.

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*God calls us to serve others.*

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*Worship makes us joyful every day.*

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# Lesson Outline

Lesson	Bible Story	References	Memory Verse	Message	Materials
	<b>SERVICE:</b> <i>God calls us to serve others.</i>				
<b>Lesson 1</b> <b>January</b>	The boy Jesus.	Luke 2:21, 39, 40, 51; DA 68-83	Luke 2:51, NIV	I obey and help others.	See p. 14.
	<b>GRACE:</b> <i>Jesus loves me unconditionally.</i>				
<b>Lesson 2</b> <b>February</b>	Zacchaeus climbs a tree.	Luke 19:1-10; DA 552-556	1 John 4:8, NIV	Jesus loves me all the time.	See p. 32.
	<b>WORSHIP:</b> <i>Worship makes us joyful every day.</i>				
<b>Lesson 3</b> <b>March</b>	The triumphal entry.	Luke 19:28-44; DA 569-579	Psalms 98:1, NIV	I can sing praises to Jesus.	See p. 50.

## This Bible study guide is about . . .

- **Lesson 1** teaches us that little children can serve others.
- In **Lesson 2** we learn that Jesus loves us unconditionally.
- **Lesson 3** reminds us that worship makes us joyful.

## To the leader/teacher . . .

These guides were developed to:

- **Introduce the lesson on Sabbath.** The child then reviews and applies the principles studied with the help of their parents and Bible study guides during the week. In this way, the lessons learned in Sabbath School become a vital part of the child's growing faith experience. Memory verses, which are also learned in Sabbath School, are reviewed and reinforced during the following week, connected in the child's mind with the interesting activities they have already experienced.
- **Focus the entire Sabbath School time on one message.** These messages each relate to one of the four dynamics of a growing faith experience: grace (God loves me), worship (I love God), community (we love each other), and service (God loves you, too).
- **Reach each child in the way he or she learns best.** By following the natural learning cycle on which these outlines were based, you will also connect students with the message for the week in a way that will capture each one's attention and imagination.

- **Give children active learning experiences** so they can more readily internalize the truths being presented. These experiences are followed by *debriefing* sessions in which you ask questions that lead the children to reflect on what they experienced, interpret the experience, and apply that information to their lives.
- **Involve the adult Sabbath School staff** in new and flexible ways. A very small Sabbath School can be managed by one adult. A larger Sabbath School can be managed by one leader/teacher with other adult volunteers to facilitate the small group interaction. This gives small group facilitators a maximum involvement with the students and their learning experience while requiring a minimum of preparation on the facilitator's part.

A creative alternative is to enlist leaders/teachers with different personal learning styles to lead different segments of the program.

(Note: The Getting Started section is the time-honored “business” of Sabbath School and may be used at any point during the lesson; however, it is recommended that you begin with Arrival Activities, even while some children are still arriving.)

### **To use this guide . . .**

Try to follow the natural learning cycle outlined, but adapt activities as necessary to make the program work in your particular situation.

## About Materials

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As you follow the learning sequence outlined in each lesson, you may want to adapt activities for use in your particular situation, and this may require a change in the need for materials.

Look ahead at the Program Overview for each month's program so you can be prepared with the materials suggested. Before the quarter begins, obtain regularly used supplies.

### Supplies Frequently Used in Beginner Sabbath School

#### Art Supplies

- ☐ aluminum foil
- ☐ chenille sticks or pipe cleaners
- ☐ cotton balls or polyester fiberfill
- ☐ craft sticks or tongue depressors
- ☐ crayons, markers, colored pencils
- ☐ glitter or glitter glue
- ☐ glue or glue sticks
- ☐ hole punch
- ☐ inked stamp pads (various colors)
- ☐ magnetic strips (peel and stick)
- ☐ paints—finger paints, tempera
- ☐ pencils, pens
- ☐ plastic wrap
- ☐ pom-poms
- ☐ rubber bands
- ☐ scissors (blunt-nosed)
- ☐ stapler and staples
- ☐ tape—cellophane and masking
- ☐ toilet paper rolls and/or paper towel rolls (empty)
- ☐ yarn, string, thread (several colors of each)

#### Papers

- ☐ butcher or white tablecloth roll
- ☐ construction (various colors, including black and brown)
- ☐ drawing
- ☐ finger-paint paper
- ☐ newsprint
- ☐ poster board
- ☐ tissue paper (various colors, including white)
- ☐ writing paper

#### Other

- ☐ animals (toy, stuffed, plastic)
- ☐ angel (felts or cardboard on sticks)
- ☐ baby bottles
- ☐ baby wipes or paper towels
- ☐ bags—paper, plastic trash bags, sealable plastic, large and small
- ☐ "Bible" books (cardboard or felt)
- ☐ blankets—baby/doll-size, regular size
- ☐ birthday cake (artificial) with candles, matches
- ☐ birthday gifts, inexpensive (optional)
- ☐ blindfolds, one for each child
- ☐ board books, variety of subjects
- ☐ broom (child-size), dust cloths, other cleaning supplies
- ☐ bubble solution and blowers
- ☐ building blocks, boxes, or Legos
- ☐ cassette or CD player with tapes/CDs
- ☐ carpenter tools (play hammer, saw, etc.), child-size
- ☐ costumes—angel, Bible-times for children and adults
- ☐ crowns
- ☐ cups—paper, plastic, Styrofoam
- ☐ dolls, doll clothes
- ☐ felts—angels, animals, children, flowers, Jesus, people, scenery, sun
- ☐ mirror (hand mirror)
- ☐ nature items (rocks, feathers, shells, bird nests, artificial flowers and fruit)
- ☐ offering container (basket, bowl, etc.)
- ☐ paper plates, napkins, cups
- ☐ pull toy (optional)
- ☐ puzzles, simple wooden or cardboard



- ☐ rainbow sticks
- ☐ recorded sounds (bird, animal, storm, etc.)
- ☐ rhythm or toy musical instruments
- ☐ rocking chair, adult and child
- ☐ smocks or old shirts to cover children's clothing
- ☐ stickers (animal, nature, Jesus, etc.)
- ☐ squirt bottle
- ☐ things that float

## Additional Supplies Needed This Quarter

### Lesson 1

- ☐ board books about families and helpers
- ☐ animal, family, or helper puzzles
- ☐ plastic mixing bowls
- ☐ wooden spoons
- ☐ pitcher of water
- ☐ towels or blankets
- ☐ workbench or wood
- ☐ riding toy (hobbyhorse, etc.)
- ☐ paper or felt lips (see p. 66)
- ☐ pinecones
- ☐ peanut butter
- ☐ birdseed

### Lesson 2

- ☐ board books about trees, God's gifts
- ☐ hand towels
- ☐ blankets
- ☐ climbing blocks
- ☐ small slide (if available)
- ☐ growth chart
- ☐ large objects to count
- ☐ large cutout coins (see p. 67)
- ☐ basket or large purse
- ☐ tree used in room decorations
- ☐ stepladder (three steps)
- ☐ table and chair from room decorations
- ☐ Jesus banners
- ☐ children of the world felts or pictures
- ☐ copies of tree outline (see p. 68)
- ☐ pressed leaves

- ☐ copies of heart (see p. 69)
- ☐ Jesus stickers or pictures of Jesus
- ☐ large leaves with distinct veins
- ☐ small envelopes
- ☐ copies of three-section card (see p. 70)

### Lesson 3

- ☐ board books about gifts from God
- ☐ block sets of animals
- ☐ cardboard house with flaps (see pp. 71-74)
- ☐ pictures cut into simple puzzles
- ☐ toy stuffed donkey or picture of donkey
- ☐ clothing items
- ☐ paper palm branches (see p. 75)
- ☐ felt suns and moons
- ☐ spray water bottle
- ☐ drinking straws or wooden dowels
- ☐ fabric pieces
- ☐ lightweight card stock (file folder thickness)
- ☐ empty plastic containers with screw-on lids
- ☐ small pebbles or dried grains
- ☐ leaf pattern (see p. 75)
- ☐ donkey pattern (see p. 76)
- ☐ piece of cardboard for each child (inside of cereal box works well)
- ☐ paper plates
- ☐ thin elastic
- ☐ leaves, real or paper

# Basic Needs of Children\*

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All children have certain basic needs as well as needs that are specific to their age and stage of development.

The basic needs of children are . . .

## **Physical**

- Food
- Warmth
- Shelter

## **Mental**

- Power—to make choices and follow plans

## **Emotional**

- A sense of belonging
- Approval and recognition
- Expressions of unconditional love and acceptance

- Freedom within defined boundaries
- Humor—a chance to laugh

## **Spiritual**

- An all-knowing, loving, caring God
- Forgiveness of wrongs and a chance to start over
- Assurance of acceptance with God
- Experience in prayer, answers to prayer
- A chance to grow in grace and in the knowledge of God

## Developmental Needs

In addition to the basic needs listed earlier, 2-year-olds need to experience:

- Power—to have a chance to manipulate objects, events, people
- Freedom—to make choices, to interact in learning situations, to sometimes move about at will
- Independence—to do some things unaided
- Security—to feel safe

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\**Children's Ministries: Ideas and Techniques That Work*, ed. Ann Calkins (Lincoln, Nebr.: AdventSource, 1997).

## The Beginner Child

In the Seventh-day Adventist Church the GraceLink curriculum for beginners targets children ages birth through 2 years. However, both the beginner and the kindergarten materials are adaptable to 3-year-olds.

A general rule applying to the beginner child is: seat children so their feet easily touch the ground. For children under 18 months use walkers (without wheels).

To better understand beginner children, ages birth through 2 years, it is helpful to note characteristics of their growth and development.

### **Physical**

- Vary greatly in their physical development
- Are growing rapidly
- Tire easily
- Cannot sit still for long
- Fear separation from parents
- Cry easily; one crying child sets other children crying
- Express their needs by crying. The crying usually stops when the child's needs are met.
- Become attached to adults who show love and acceptance of them

### **Mental**

- Have an attention span of only one or two minutes
- Learn by active involvement and imitation rather than by instruction
- Learn best one minitstep at a time
- Focus attention on what they see and/or touch

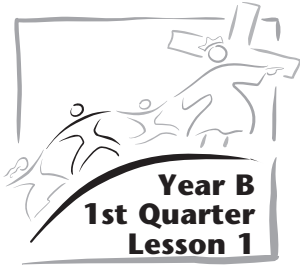
### **Emotional**

- Are extremely egocentric—centered in themselves

### **Spiritual**

- Sense attitudes of respect, joy, and anticipation in connection with church, the Bible, and Jesus
- Can identify pictures of Jesus and lisp His name
- Will fold hands (briefly) for the blessing before meals and kneel (again briefly) for prayer

# LESSON



## Little Jesus, the Happy Helper

### SERVICE

God calls us to serve others.

#### References

Luke 2:21, 39, 40, 51; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 68-83.

#### Memory Verse

"[Jesus] was obedient" (Luke 2:51, NIV).

#### Objectives

##### The children will:

**Know** that they can obey as Jesus did.

**Feel** loving toward family members and pets.

**Respond** by being obedient to parents and kind to family members and pets.

#### The Message



I obey and help others.

## Getting Ready to Teach

#### The Bible Lesson at a Glance

Jesus is a young child. He loves His mother and father and makes them happy. He listens to them and obeys them. He learns at His mother's knee. He is kind to everyone—at home, at church, and in the village. He is happy to help others.

#### *This is a lesson about service.*

Children are by nature self-centered. They learn the lessons of a servant's heart by example. The same is true for adults. We learn best by following Jesus' example. This lesson focuses on Jesus' life as a little boy. As we look at His life and

choices, we can help our children learn that we are the happiest when we choose to treat others the way He did.

#### Teacher Enrichment

"The childhood and youth of Jesus were spent in a little mountain village. . . . Wonderful in its significance is the brief record of His early life. . . . His mind was active and penetrating, with a thoughtfulness and wisdom beyond His years. . . . The powers of mind and body developed gradually, in keeping with the laws of childhood. As a child, Jesus manifested a particular loveliness of disposition. His will-

# ONE



ing hands were ever ready to serve others. He manifested a patience that nothing could disturb, and a truthfulness that could never sacrifice integrity. In principle firm as a rock, His life revealed the grace of unselfish courtesy" (*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 68, 69).

## **Room Organization**

This program is designed for a traditional beginner setting. Small group activities may be done on the floor in the center of the circle, or on tables or mats placed around the edge.

## **Room Decorations**

These room decorations will work for the next six months with slight adaptations for

each lesson. At this age, a few large, well-chosen decorations will work best.

Create indoor and outdoor areas by partitioning the room with a large cardboard box or lightweight wood to suggest the wall of a house. For added interest, paint windows and doors and cut them out on three sides so the children can open and shut them. Set a small table and chairs in your "inside" area. Make a small bedroll with blankets or a sleeping bag. Hang a picture on the wall if you wish.

Place a small bench and real or artificial trees and plants "outside" the house. Place small toy tree animals, birds, and fruit on the branches. Place real or artificial leaves under the tree and set some Bible-times toy stuffed animals nearby.

# Program Overview

	LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
	<b>Welcome</b>	ongoing	Greet students	
1	<b>Parent Time</b>	up to 5		
2	<b>Arrival Activities</b>	up to 10	A. <i>Book Basket</i> B. <i>Animal Corner</i> C. <i>Puzzles</i> D. <i>Toolbox</i> E. <i>Kitchen Corner</i> F. <i>Tea Set</i> G. <i>Rocking Chair</i>	books about families helping, or people who help us toy stuffed animals animal, family, or helper puzzles play tools, wood plastic mixing bowls, wooden spoons, etc. pitcher of water, paper cups adult-sized rocking chair
3	<b>Getting Started</b>	up to 10	Welcome Prayer Visitors Offering Birthdays	bells offering container artificial cake, candles, small gift (optional)
4	<b>Experiencing the Story</b>	up to 30	A. <i>Memory Verse</i> B. <i>Good Morning, Father</i> C. <i>Make Your Bed</i> D. <i>Breakfast</i> E. <i>Bible Lesson</i> F. <i>Pets</i> G. <i>Who Comes Running?</i> H. <i>Carpenter Shop</i> I. <i>Memory Verse</i> J. <i>Playing</i> K. <i>Kind Lips</i> L. <i>Little Light</i> M. <i>Sabbath</i> N. <i>Happy Helpers</i> O. <i>Happy Sharers</i> P. <i>Memory Verse</i>	felt or cardboard "Bibles" towels or blankets plastic or paper dishes; plastic cutlery felt or cardboard "Bibles" toy stuffed animal pets felt or toy stuffed animal mother and babies play tools or sticks, workbench or wood riding toy, hobbyhorse, etc. paper or felt lips (see p. 66) bells, rainbow sticks, ribbon sticks, etc. animals from activity F, box or sack basket of toys

LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
<b>5 Make and Take (Optional)</b>	up to 10 <b>Week 1</b>	<i>Toy Basket</i>	paper plates; stapler; scissors; stickers or pictures of toys, clothes, etc.
	<b>Week 2</b>	<i>Helping Hands</i>	washable finger paint, paper, markers, paper plate, soap and water or baby wipes
	<b>Week 3</b>	<i>Kind Lips</i>	reproducible lip outline (see page 66), paper, glue, scissors, markers or crayons
	<b>Week 4</b>	<i>Pinecone Bird Feeders</i>	pinecones, peanut butter, butter knife, birdseed, sealable plastic bags, string
	<b>Week 5 (Optional)</b>	<i>Happy Faces</i>	small paper plates, yellow crayons or spray paint (optional), black crayons
<b>Snack Center (Optional)</b>			fruit, crackers, pretzels, juice, etc.

## 1 PARENT TIME

Busy parents often arrive at church tired and worn out from the week's activities and from getting the family ready for the "day of rest." Share a word of encouragement with them sometime during Sabbath School (possibly during Arrival Activities), something that will express your care and concern for them. The following statements were prepared by young mothers and fathers as suggestions, and may be used at your discretion at any time you wish.

### Week 1

We finished putting the gardening tools away, and I went in to wash. I started preparing our supper when 3-year-old Jesse came into the house. His hands, face, and mouth were covered with cow manure. "What are you doing?" I asked, grabbing a wet cloth and heading for my young son.

"I will grow, Mommy, I will grow,"

he answered. Realizing that earlier I had told him that the cow manure makes our vegetables taller, I knew what he meant.

How often the messes we clean up are from well-meaning helpers. Our little ones want to be "big" and helpful.

Share how you can help your child grow to be like Jesus.

### Week 2

Did Mary ever get upset at Jesus? Did He ever do anything childish that would cause her frustration? Did she ever lose her temper because of Him? I used to wonder where my children got their temper and impatience. After being impatient and raising my voice to my child, I've realized where it came from! I have an imperfect child. I am an imperfect mother. But I'm asking God to help me see my child through His eyes. In His eyes my child is perfect. He can take my children and do for them what I cannot do.

Ellen White says, "Parents, when you have faithfully done your duty, to the extent of your ability, you may then in faith ask the Lord to do that for your children which you cannot do" (*Child Guidance*, p. 256). God can also change us as parents. "Ask Him to temper their dispositions, to make them mild and gentle by His Holy Spirit. He will hear you pray. He will love to answer your prayers" (*Child Guidance*, p. 256).

How do you see your child? In what areas of raising your child do you need God's extra help?

## Week 3

My 8-month-old child was sitting in the high chair, watching the food drop to the floor as he released the morsels from his tiny hands. Looks like fun, right? Not for mom to clean up! So I said, "No dropping food," and swatted his hand, causing him to cry. Next meal, same thing, except I had to swat his hand harder. I felt terrible about it, but what else could I do? A few days later I caught him dropping food off his high chair tray, then swatting his own hand while he said, "No!"

Wait a minute! That's not what I was trying to teach him! So I prayed for wisdom. God let me see that he really dropped the food only when he was finished eating and began to play with it. So the solution was to take him out of the high chair as soon as he began to fidget and play. Knowing how to discipline has been one of my greatest struggles and concerns. I want to be firm and consistent but yet not harsh and unloving.

Ellen White tells us, "Mothers, be sure that you properly discipline your children during the first three years of their lives. . . . It is then that the foundation is laid" (*Child Guidance*, p. 194).

What discipline issues are you struggling with? Have you seen any answers to prayer over discipline issues?

## Week 4

"The knowledge of God as revealed in His word is the knowledge to be given to our children. From the earliest dawn of reason they should be made familiar with the name and the life of Jesus. Their first lessons should teach them that God is their Father. Their first training should be that of loving obedience. Reverently and tenderly let the word of God be read and repeated to them in portions suited to their comprehension and adapted to awaken their interest" (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 460).

Share ways that you can share Scripture even now with your children.

## Week 5 (or optional)

"The story of the birth and childhood of Jesus never loses its fragrance and interest, and it should be often repeated to the children and youth. Jesus was ever in sympathy with all phases of the life of childhood and youth. When the mothers brought their children that Jesus might place His hands upon their heads and bless them, the disciples looked with disfavor upon the tired mothers and their little ones, and sternly forbade them to come to Jesus to trouble Him with so unimportant a matter; but Jesus did not look upon them with disapprobation. His compassionate voice was heard saying, 'Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.' He took the children in His arms, and blessed them, and spoke words of encouragement and sympathy to the mothers, and both mothers and children returned to their homes strengthened and blessed by the divine love of the Master. They loved Jesus, and often repeated to others the story of their visit. They told how the disciples had forbidden them, but how the Lord had had compassion upon them" (*The Bible Echo*, Dec. 15, 1892).



## 2

**ARRIVAL ACTIVITIES**

Plan simple play activities on a blanket, sheet, or quilt for children who arrive early. The children participate in these activities, under the supervision of an adult, until the program begins. The child's play should be with materials that relate to the program, which is based on the monthly Bible story.

Choose from the following suggested activities for this month. Be sure to include something for the span of children's ages.

**A. Book Basket**

Provide a basket of sturdy board books about families, children helping, or people who help us, such as police officers, doctors, nurses, etc.

**B. Animal Corner**

Provide a variety of toy stuffed animals (some that make noises, if possible) for the children to hold.

**C. Puzzles**

Provide simple puzzles about animals,

families, or helpers. Create puzzles by cutting pictures out of magazines and mounting them on foam core panels or cardboard. Cut the pictures into two or three parts for toddlers to match.

**D. Toolbox**

Provide a few pieces of wood and a box of play tools.

**E. Kitchen Corner**

Provide a toy kitchen set or box of plastic mixing bowls, wooden spoons, etc.

**F. Tea Set**

Provide a small pitcher of water and paper cups. Encourage the children to pour a cup of water and share it with someone else.

**G. Rocking Chair**

Have an adult-sized rocking chair available for parents to hold and rock children who are too tired or shy to join in the activities.

## 3

## GETTING STARTED

**A. Welcome**

Say: **Good morning, boys and girls! I'm so happy to see you today.** Greet each child with a smile, hug, kiss, or handshake as you sing "Good Morning" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 1).

Good morning, Good morning,  
Good morning we say;  
We're happy, so happy to see you  
today!

—Janet Sage

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**B. Prayer Time**

Say: **Jesus wants to be with us in our Sabbath School today as we learn more about Him. Let's ask Him to be with us.** Prepare for prayer by singing "Let's Have a Talk With Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 11).

Let's have a talk with Jesus,  
Let's close our eyes and say,  
"Dear Jesus, please be with us  
In Sabbath school today."

—Kathleen Maguire

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**You Need:**

☐ bells

Say: **Sabbath School is a special place. In Sabbath School we learn about being the kind of boys and girls Jesus wants us to be. Let's ring our bells to tell Jesus how happy we are for Sabbath School.** Distribute bells for the children to ring as you sing "I'm Glad I Came to Sabbath School" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 5).

I'm glad I came to Sabbath school,  
I'm glad I came to Sabbath school,  
I'm glad I came to Sabbath school  
On this bright Sabbath morning.

—Edith Smith Casebeer

Say a simple prayer similar to the following and ask the children to repeat your phrases: **Dear Jesus, thank You for Sabbath and for Sabbath School. Thank You for being with us in Sabbath School. Help us to be more like You. Amen.**

Sing "A Tiny Tot Response" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 21).

Thank You, Jesus, for ev'rything.  
Amen.

—Joy Hicklin Stewart

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### C. Visitors

Welcome each visitor individually, then sing "We're Glad You Came to Our Sabbath School" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 25).

We're glad you came to our Sabbath school.

Won't you come again?

We're glad you came to our Sabbath school.

Won't you come again?

—Mary E. Schwab

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### D. Offering

#### You Need:

- ☐ pretty bowl or basket or other offering container

Say: **We learn about Jesus in Sabbath School. But some boys and girls don't know about Him. We bring our offering to help other boys**

**and girls learn that Jesus loves them, too.** Place a pretty basket or bowl (or other container) on the floor and have the children drop their offering into it. Sing "Offering Prayer Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 33).

We have bro't our off'ring on this Sabbath day.

Bless our gift, dear Jesus. May it help someone, we pray.

—Norma June Bell

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### E. Birthdays

Say: **Someone here has had a birthday. Do you know who it is? Close your eyes and we'll find out.** Lead the birthday child up front to a special birthday chair while you sing "A Birthday" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 36).

A birthday, a birthday,

O who has had a birthday?

Come sit right here and we will sing,

To wish you happy birthday.

—Mildred Adair

#### You Need:

- ☐ artificial birthday cake
- ☐ candles or coins
- ☐ matches
- ☐ small gift (optional)

Light the candle(s) or help the child drop the coin(s) into the artificial cake or other container while you sing "Count the Birthday Money" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 37).

Mary\* has a birthday, we're so glad.

We will see how many she\* has had.

As we count the money (candles) we are told [count]

Yes, the money says (candles say) she's\* two\* years old.

\* Insert name, appropriate pronoun, and age of child.

Light the birthday candle(s) and then lead in singing "Happy Birthday to You."

Happy birthday to you,

Happy birthday to you,

Jesus loves you, dear [child's name],

Happy birthday to you.

—Traditional. Adapted.

Encourage the child to blow out the candle(s). If possible, give the child a small gift from Sabbath School. Say a special birthday prayer thanking Jesus for the child.



## EXPERIENCING THE STORY

### A. Memory Verse

#### You Need:

- felt or cardboard Bibles with a picture of Jesus inside

Say: **It's time to look in our Bibles.** Distribute small felt or cardboard Bibles while you sing "I Open My Bible Carefully" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 28).

I open my Bible carefully and learn of Jesus' love;  
I open my Bible carefully and learn of Jesus' love.

—Janet Sage

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Say: **Jesus was once a child too, just like you. Our lesson today is about Jesus when He was a little boy. The Bible says Jesus was obedient. That's our memory verse today. Can you say it with me? "[Jesus] was obedient."**

Sing "Jesus Was Obedient" to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." Clap on the last three beats of each "obedient."

Jesus was obedient,  
Obedient, obedient;  
Jesus was obedient.  
Luke two: fifty-one.

### B. Good Morning, Father

Say: **What's the first thing you do every morning? You wake up! That's the first thing Jesus did every day when He was a boy too. Can you s-t-r-e-t-c-h with me like you've just woken up? And the first thing Jesus did after He woke up every morning was to talk to His heavenly Father.** Sing "Pray" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 231), teaching the children the following motions as you sing.

**Pray**

*Hands together as if in prayer.*

**when you wake in the morning;**

*Arms up over head and then down to the sides, stretching.*

**Pray**

*Hands together.*

**at the table, too;**

*Hands out in front as if offering something.*

**Pray**

*Hands together.*

**before closing your eyes in sleep;**

*Hands together on one side of the face as if forming a pillow.*

**Pray**

*Hands together.*

**in all that you do.** *Arms out wide in front and then to sides in gesture of inclusiveness.*

—Nancy Stagl-Schippmann

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**C. Make Your Bed****You Need:**

- ☐ towels or small blankets

Say: **Do you think Jesus left His bed messy all day? No, I don't think so. Jesus probably didn't sleep in a**

**bed like you do. He probably slept on the floor on something that He would roll up nicely and put away for the day.**

Give each child a towel to roll up while you sing "Helping Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 288). Children may stack their rolled-up towels near the bedroll in the indoor part of your classroom scene.

Our little hands can be helping hands,  
When there's work to do.  
Our little feet can be helping feet,  
Running errands too.

—Kathryn B. Myers

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**D. Breakfast**

Allow response time as you say:  
**By then Jesus may have heard His mother, Mary, getting breakfast ready. Do you think Jesus just waited for breakfast or do you think He helped His mother? Yes, Jesus was a happy helper.**

Distribute the dishes and cutlery and invite the children to help set the table while you sing "I'm a Little Helper" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 293).

I'm a little helper, a helper, a helper,  
O I'm a little helper like Jesus!

—Janet Sage

**You Need:**

- ☐ small table (part of the room decoration)
- ☐ plastic or paper plates or bowls and cups
- ☐ cutlery

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**E. Bible Lesson**

Say: **After breakfast it might have been time for Jesus to study the Bible with His mother. Mary taught Jesus many things about the Bible. She taught Jesus that the Bible was God's Word.**

Distribute the small Bibles to the children to look through while you sing "The Bible Is God's Word to Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 52).

The Bible is God's Word to me.  
The Bible says that God loves me.

—Enid G. Thorson

**You Need:**

- ☐ felt or cardboard "Bibles"

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## F. Pets

### You Need:

- ☐ toy stuffed animal pets

Allow response time as you say:

**Do you think Jesus had a pet? He might have had a pet, or He might have helped take care of any sheep or goats that His family had.**

**Do you think Jesus would have teased His animals? Oh, no. Do you think Jesus would have been unkind to the animals? No. Jesus was always kind and gentle with the animals. He would have taken good care of His animals.**

**How does Jesus want you to treat your pets? He wants you to be kind to them, just as He was kind.**

Distribute the toy stuffed animals to the children. Invite them to bring the animals up front while you sing "I Have a (doggy/kitty)" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 283). Leave the animals out for use in Activity N.

I have a doggy.\* I have a doggy.\*  
Jesus gave her to me.  
I must take care of her;  
Feed, walk, and love her ev'ry day.  
—Cynthia Patterson Coston

\*kitty

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## G. Who Comes Running?

### You Need:

- ☐ felt or toy stuffed mother animal and babies

Say: **Have you**

**ever watched baby animals and their mother? What do the animals do when their mother calls? Yes, they come running.**

Distribute felt or toy stuffed baby animals to the children. Put the toy mother animal on the floor or felt board. When you sing, invite the children to bring the baby animals to the mother. If you have access to different kinds of mothers and baby animals, sing several verses of "When a Mother Calls" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 274).

When a mother says, "Bow-wow"\*  
What comes running? What comes running?

When a mother says "Bow-wow,"\*  
Little puppy dogs come running.

—Kathryn B. Myers

\*Substitute "meow," "quack, quack," etc.

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Say: **When Jesus was a little boy, what do you think He did when His mother called? Yes, He came running. Jesus wants little boys and girls to come running when their parents call.** Take the children across the room. Sing the song again, and have the children run to their parents when their parents call.

When a parent says, "Come here,"  
Who comes running? Who comes running?

When a parent says, "Come here,"  
Little boys and girls come running.

—Kathryn B. Myers. Adapted.

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## H. Carpenter Shop

### You Need:

- ☐ play tools or wooden sticks
- ☐ workbench or wood

Say: **Jesus' father was a carpenter. His name was Joseph. Jesus helped Joseph in the carpenter shop. Jesus was a happy helper.**

Distribute play tools to the children. Invite them to come and work on the workbench or wood, or tap their sticks together. Sing to the tune of "Tap, Tap, Tap" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 281):

Tap, tap, tap,  
Tap, tap, tap,  
That's how Joseph's hammer goes;  
Tap, tap, tap,  
Tap, tap, tap,  
Jesus helped His dad.

—Janet Sage. Adapted.

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## I. Memory Verse

Say: **Jesus always helped when Joseph asked Him to help in the carpenter shop, or when Mary asked Him to help at home. Jesus came running when His parents called. Jesus was obedient. Do you remember our memory verse song? Let's sing it again.**

Sing "Jesus Was Obedient" to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." Clap on the last three beats of each "obedient."

Jesus was obedient  
Obedient, obedient.  
Jesus was obedient.  
Luke two: fifty-one.

## J. Playing

Say: **When Jesus finished helping His mother and father, He might have gone to play with the other children in Nazareth. Do you think Jesus took turns sharing with the other boys and girls? Yes, I'm sure He did. Taking turns and sharing is another way you can be a happy helper. You help everyone get along when you share.**

Help the children take turns on the riding toy, hobbyhorse, etc., as you sing "We Are Sharing" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 280).

We are sharing, we are sharing;  
Jesus wants me to share with you.  
It was your turn; now it's my turn.  
We are happy taking turns.

—Enid G. Thorson

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## K. Kind Lips

Say: **Sometimes children say unkind things. They don't use their lips to be helpers. But Jesus always used His lips to say kind things. Let's bring our lips up to the board while we sing.**

Sing "Kind Lips" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 310) as the children bring their lips to the felt board. (See pattern on page 66.)

My little lips will be kind lips,  
My little lips will be kind lips,  
My little lips will be kind lips,  
Saying kind things like dear Jesus.

—Mary E. Schwab. Adapted.

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### You Need:

- ☐ riding toy, hobbyhorse, etc.

### You Need:

- ☐ felt or paper lips (see p. 66)

## L. Little Light

Say: **When Jesus was kind and loving and obedient, He showed other children how to be the boys and girls God wanted them to be. He was being a good example in His neighborhood. We say He was letting His light shine. You can let your light shine too.**

Show the children how to use their index finger to represent a light while you sing "This Little Light of Mine" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 313).

This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Shine it 'round the neighborhood.  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
Shine it 'round the neighborhood.  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

—Unknown

## M. Sabbath

### You Need:

- ☐ bells,
- rainbow
- sticks,
- ribbon
- sticks, etc.

Say: **On Sabbath Jesus went to worship God, just as we do when we come to Sabbath School and church. Sabbath was a happy day for Jesus.**

Distribute bells, rainbow sticks, ribbon sticks, etc., for the children to shake or wave while you sing "Happy Sabbath" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 235).

Sabbath is a happy day,  
Happy day, happy day,  
Sabbath is a happy day,  
I love every Sabbath.

—Margaret Kennedy

## N. Happy Helpers

### You Need:

- ☐ toy stuffed animals
- ☐ box or sack

Say: **Jesus isn't a little boy anymore. He lives in heaven now. But it makes Him glad to see boys and girls who are happy helpers, as He was when He was a little boy. Can you be a happy helper? Can you help me put away the toy animals?**

Ask the children to pick up the toy animals and put them into the box or sack while you sing "We Are Happy Helpers" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 296).

We are happy helpers,  
Helpers, helpers;  
We are happy helpers,  
Helping all the day.

—A. Adele Flower. Adapted.

## O. Happy Sharers

### You Need:

- ☐ basket of toys

Say: **It makes Jesus happy to see children sharing, too.**

Invite half the class to come and select two items from the basket and take one back to another child. Repeat with the other half of the class while you sing "Sharing" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 278).

Sharing, sharing,  
I have fun and so do you;  
Sharing, sharing,  
It's a loving thing to do.

—Janet Sage

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**P. Memory Verse**

Say: **Jesus was obedient when He was a little boy. Do you know why? Because He loved His parents. And He loved God. He wants you to be obedient too.**

Sing an adaptation of the memory verse song to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb," clapping on the last three

beats each time you sing the word "obedient."

I will be obedient,  
obedient, obedient;  
I will be obedient  
just like Jesus.

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## 5

**MAKE AND TAKE (Optional)**

Have the children sit around small tables. Parents or other adults should assist children to do one of the following as you review the lesson story.

**Week 1****Toy Basket****You Need:**

- ☐ paper plates
- ☐ stapler
- ☐ scissors
- ☐ stickers or pictures of toys, clothes, etc.

Make baskets by cutting paper plates in half and stapling the halves together along the curved edge. Provide stickers or pictures of toys, clothes, etc., for the children to put into their baskets. Talk

about how helpful children put their things away when they are asked.

**Week 3****Kind Lips**

Copy the lips for each child (see page 66). Let the children color them. Cut out the lips and glue them onto a piece of construction paper. Under the lips write "My lips say kind words."

**You Need:**

- ☐ reproducible lip outline (see page 66)
- ☐ paper
- ☐ glue
- ☐ scissors
- ☐ markers or crayons

**Week 2****Helping Hands****You Need:**

- ☐ washable finger paint
- ☐ paper
- ☐ markers
- ☐ paper plate
- ☐ soap and water or baby wipes

Squirt a little finger paint onto a paper plate. Help the children coat the palms of their hands with the paint. Press their hands onto the white paper. (Alternative activity: have the parents trace around the children's hands.) Underneath

the handprints write "Helping Hands for Jesus."

**Week 4****Pinecone Bird Feeders**

Tie a string around one end of a pinecone. Cover the pinecone in peanut butter, then roll in birdseed. Place the pinecone in a sealable plastic bag for the children to take home and hang outside for the birds.

**You Need:**

- ☐ pinecones
- ☐ peanut butter
- ☐ butter knife
- ☐ birdseed
- ☐ sealable plastic bags
- ☐ string

## Week 5 (or optional activity)

### Happy Faces

#### You Need:

- ☐ small paper plates
- ☐ yellow crayons
- ☐ black crayons

Supply yellow crayons for the children to color the plates. Have adult helpers use the black crayons to add eyes and a happy-face mouth. At the bottom of the plate write "I'm a happy helper for Jesus."

## Snack Center (Optional)

A simple snack such as fruit, crackers, pretzels, or juice can be provided each week.

## Bible Activities

If there is still time, families may choose from a variety of activities that reinforce this month's Bible story. Those activities listed as Arrival Activities may be used again. In addition, you may want to provide a snack at one table.

## Closing

Say: **We want to be like Jesus when He was a little boy. We want to obey and be happy helpers. Let's ask Jesus to help us.**

Close with a short prayer asking Jesus to help the boys and girls obey and be happy helpers. Then sing together "Sabbath School Is Over" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 46).

Our Sabbath school is over,  
And we are going now.  
Goodbye, goodbye,  
Be always kind and true.  
Goodbye, goodbye,  
Be always kind and true.

**Notes**

STUDENT LESSON

**References**

Luke 2:21, 39, 40, 51; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 68-83.

**Memory Verse**

"[Jesus] was obedient" (Luke 2:51, NIV).

**The Message**

I obey and help others.

# Little Jesus the Happy Helper

*Jaime is a helper. He can give Mommy a glass of water. Can you help? Little Jesus was a helper, just as you are.*

Little Jesus wakes up happy. (Yawn, stretch, smile.)

He rolls up His bed. (Roll up a towel.)

He kneels to talk to God. (Clasp hands together.) "Dear God, thank You for a good sleep. Please help me listen today, so that I may be a happy helper. Amen."

This is the town of Nazareth. (Point to the town.) Little Jesus lives in a little house here. He is a happy helper at home.

Some of the people are sad. Little Jesus (Point to Jesus.) wants to be their happy helper too. Little Jesus says kind words to everyone.

Little Jesus learns outdoors. He learns about God out here.

He moves the caterpillar from the path to keep it safe. (Point to the caterpillar.)

See the bird's nest? (Point to the nest.) Little Jesus does not touch the eggs. Mother birds don't want us to touch their eggs.

Little Jesus is a happy helper for all God's creatures.

Little Jesus learns at home. His mother is His teacher. He learns about God. (Point up.) He can say Bible words. Can you say Bible words?

Little Jesus is God's happy helper. He listens to what God says. Can you listen and help today? (Pray that God will make your child His happy helper.)

"Come out to play!" the children say.

"Not yet!" Jesus calls. (Point to Jesus, then to Mary.) "I am helping Mother." Little Jesus will play when His work is done.

"You don't go to school," the big boys tease. (Point to big boys.)

"My mother is my teacher," Jesus answers.

Jesus goes to school at home. (Show previous picture.)

Bang! Bang! Bang! See Jesus' hammer. (Point to Jesus, then to the hammer.) Little Jesus pounds a nail.

Scrape, scrape, scrape. See father Joseph's plane. (Point to Joseph, then to the plane.) The plane smooths the wood. (Point to the wood.) See the wood curl.

Father Joseph works hard. Little Jesus works hard beside him.

Listen! Listen! (Hold your hand by one ear.) The rabbi is blowing on the horn to call the people to worship on the Sabbath day. (Point to the rabbi, then the ram's horn.)

Listen! Listen! (Hold your hand by one ear.) Jesus hears. His mother hears. Father Joseph hears. (Point to each one.)

Jesus likes to be at church. "Come!" He says. "Come help us sing and pray."



**1.** Sing “I’m a Happy Helper” or make up your own song about helping.

**2.** Make a card or hand print for a family or church member. Deliver it in person. Pray for that person today.

**3.** Encourage your child to feed the family pet. Thank Jesus for pets.

**4.** Pick some wildflowers or garden flowers and offer them to someone else.

**5.** Use fingers and a bright lamp or the sun to make shadow figures. Talk about helping hands.

**6.** Trace your child’s helping hands and feet. Write “\_\_\_\_\_ is a happy helper” on the tracing and put it where your family will see it.

**7.** Let your child help you pull weeds or do other work in the yard or garden. Thank your child for being a happy helper.

**8.** Sing the memory verse song while you pick up toys and clothes with your child.

**9.** Make smiling faces and frowning faces into a mirror. Smiling faces are helping faces. What are frowning faces? What face does your child have?

# Do & Say

Study these suggestions for something to do each day. Select those that are appropriate for your child’s developmental stage and repeat them often.

**10.** Praise your child for picking up his or her toys. Have a special place for them.

**11.** Encourage your child to hold and rock a baby doll. Talk about being helpers when we comfort others.

**12.** Offer your child a small dusting rag and something to dust. Thank him or her for helping.

**13.** Help your child practice using his or her lips to say kind words, such as please, thank you, and you’re welcome.

**14.** Scatter some toys or articles. Count and see how quickly your child can place them in a basket. Do it again!

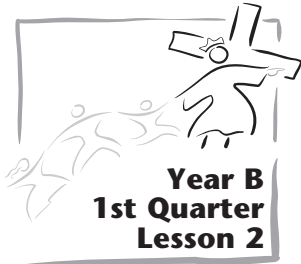
**15.** Let your child help identify and fold his or her freshly laundered clothes.

**16.** Ask your child to help set the table. Thank Jesus for good food.

**17.** Encourage your child to carry his or her plate to the sink after meals.

**18.** Play “Who comes running?” with your child. Make different animal sounds and have your child come running when hearing the sound of your voice.

# LESSON



## Zacchaeus Climbs a Tree

### GRACE

Jesus loves me unconditionally.

### References

Luke 19:1-10; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 552-556.

### Memory Verse

"God is love" (1 John 4:8, NIV).

### Objectives

#### The children will:

**Know** that Jesus loves them all the time.

**Feel** accepted and loved by God.

**Respond** by thanking God for His love.

### The Message



Jesus loves me all the time.

## Getting Ready to Teach

### The Bible Lesson at a Glance

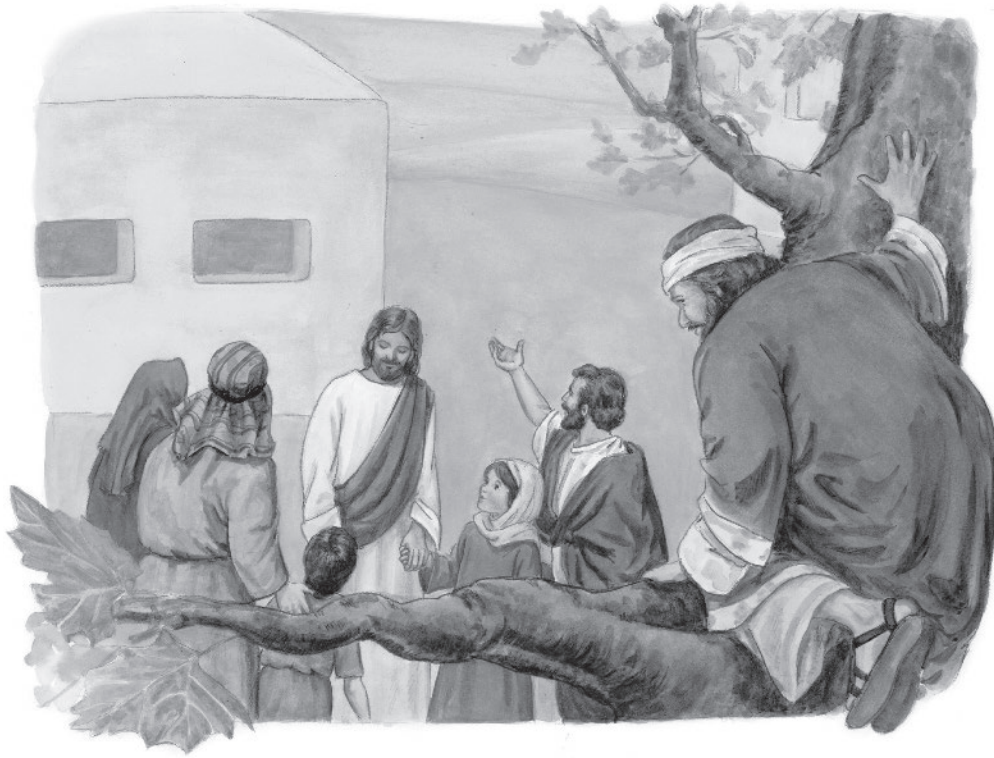
Zacchaeus is a tax collector. He is unfair when he charges the people their taxes. But when he learns about Jesus and wants to be fair, the people still don't like him. Jesus comes to Jericho and sees Zacchaeus in a tree. Jesus asks to go to his house, showing how much He loves him. Zacchaeus accepts Jesus' love and forgiveness, gives back the things he has stolen,

and he doesn't take things that don't belong to him anymore.

### ***This is a lesson about grace.***

Young children need unconditional grace to feel secure. This lesson helps to teach them that Jesus loves us no matter what we do and that His love is a power that changes us, and gives us constant security.

# TWO



## Teacher Enrichment

"Zacchaeus had been overwhelmed, amazed, and silenced at the love and condescension of Christ in stooping to him, so unworthy. Now love and loyalty to his new-found Master unseal his lips. He will make public his confession and his repentance" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 554).

"It is when Christ is received as a personal Saviour that salvation comes to the soul. Zacchaeus had received

Jesus, not merely as a passing guest in his home, but as One to abide in the soul temple. The scribes and Pharisees accused him as a sinner, . . . but the Lord recognized him as a son of Abraham" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 556).

## Room Decorations

See Lesson 1. Add steps or boxes going up to the tree.

# Program Overview

	LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
	<b>Welcome</b>	ongoing	Greet students	
1	<b>Parent Time</b>	up to 5		
2	<b>Arrival Activities</b>	up to 10	A. <i>Book Basket</i> B. <i>Peekaboo Basket</i> C. <i>Rock-a-Bye, Baby</i> D. <i>Climbing Blocks</i> E. <i>Measuring</i> F. <i>Counting</i> G. <i>Rocking Chair</i>	books about trees and God's gifts of love hand towels, play objects dolls, blankets climbing blocks, small slide growth chart, tape, pencil large objects, containers adult-size rocking chair
3	<b>Getting Started</b>	up to 10	Welcome Prayer Visitors Offering Birthdays	bells  offering container artificial birthday cake, candles, coins (optional), matches, small gift (optional)
4	<b>Experiencing the Story</b>	up to 30	A. <i>Memory Verse</i> B. <i>Find the Money</i> C. <i>Jesus Comes to Town</i> D. <i>Climb a Tree</i> E. <i>Jesus Forgives</i> F. <i>Dinner Guest</i> G. <i>Return the Money</i> H. <i>Jesus Loves Us</i>	felt or cardboard "Bibles"  large cutout coins (see p. 67), basket or large purse  tree used in room decorations, stepladder, large picture or felt Jesus  table and chair from room decorations, plastic plates and cups, snack (optional) large cutout coins (see p. 67), basket or large purse Jesus banners, mirror, children of the world felts or pictures



	LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
<b>5</b>	<b>Make and Take (Optional)</b>	up to 10 <b>Week 1</b>	<i>Tree</i>	copies of tree outline (see p. 68), crayons, cotton balls, pressed leaves or green paper, glue sticks
		<b>Week 2</b>	<i>Jesus Loves You</i>	copies of heart pattern (see p. 69), pencils, Jesus stickers or pictures of Jesus and glue sticks (optional)
		<b>Week 3</b>	<i>Leaf Rubbing</i>	large leaves with veins, paper, thick crayons
		<b>Week 4</b>	<i>Coin Purse</i>	small envelopes, "coins" (see p. 67), crayons or stickers
		<b>Week 5 (Optional)</b>	<i>Jesus Loves Me</i>	copies of three-section card (see p. 70), crayons, markers
	<b>Snack Center (Optional)</b>			fruit, crackers, napkins or baby wipes

## 1

**PARENT TIME**

Busy parents often arrive at church tired and worn out from the week's activities and from getting the family ready for the "day of rest." Share a word of encouragement with them sometime during Sabbath School (possibly during Arrival Activities), something that will express your care and concern for them. The following statements were prepared by young mothers and fathers as suggestions, and may be used at your discretion at any time you wish.

**Week 1**

"Why are you out of your room?" Shelly frowned at Andrew. The busy toddler should have been napping.

"My truck hot," he replied.

Following him into the room, she gasped. On the bed was a lamp Andrew

had pulled down off the dresser. A little plastic truck and some crayons were melting on the bulb. It had burned through the bedspread, two sheets, the mattress pad, and was beginning to burn the mattress!

Needless to say, it wasn't Shelly's crowning moment of motherhood! We all have moments of crisis that zap our strength and paralyze us with fear. But no matter how unsafe or naughty our children act, and no matter how we parents respond, God still loves them and us because of His grace.

What has been your response to a frightening situation your child has been in? Does how you respond depend on it being innocent curiosity or defiant behavior?

## Week 2

My 2-year-old seemed to sail through the “terrible twos” without much of a fuss. But when 3 hit, things changed. He became very strong-willed. One evening as my husband was giving him a bath, Carson poured water out of the tub. My husband reminded him not to do that.

Carson defiantly disagreed out loud and then said, “I’m the guy who blows out the candle.”

*What in the world does that mean?* my husband thought.

Later when he told me about it, we decided Carson must be thinking about the song “This Little Light of Mine,” which we had sung at worship that night. Carson knew he was being naughty like Satan (“Don’t let Satan blow it out. I’m gonna let it shine.”). At such a young age children know when they are not doing the right thing!

Share about a time when you saw your child demonstrate their knowledge of right and wrong. Let’s pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to work on our children’s young minds to convict them of right and wrong.

## Week 3

“As the mothers passed along the dusty road and drew near the Saviour, He saw the unbidden tear and the quivering lip, as they offered a silent prayer in behalf of the children. He heard the words of rebuke from the disciples and promptly countermanded the order. His great heart of love was open to receive the children. One after another, He took them in His arms and blessed them, while one little child lay fast asleep, reclining against His bosom. Jesus spoke words of encouragement to the mothers in reference to their work, and, oh, what a relief was thus brought to their minds! With what joy they dwelt upon the goodness and mercy

of Jesus, as they looked back to that memorable occasion! His gracious words had removed the burden from their hearts and inspired them with fresh hope and courage. All sense of weariness was gone” (*The Adventist Home*, pp. 273, 274).

What words of encouragement would you love to hear Jesus speaking to you today?

## Week 4

I know how Zacchaeus must have felt. As my son approaches his fifth birthday, he’s the size of an average 2½-year-old. It’s hard not to compare his stature with younger kids. I wonder how it will be for him when he starts school. He’ll surely be the smallest in his class. Will he be teased? How will that affect him? One thing is certain, just as in Zacchaeus’s case, Jesus loves my son dearly. It doesn’t matter if our children aren’t “perfect” in the world’s eyes. They are in Jesus’ sight.

Share ways you are teaching your child about Jesus’ awesome love.

## Week 5 (or optional)

When my firstborn was 8 months old, I distinctly remember one beautiful, warm May afternoon. We had walked to a playground. After swinging and playing a long time, we started for home. I carried him and sang “God Is So Wonderful.” He put his tired, sweaty head on my shoulder and fell asleep.

As I carried my precious son I thought, *Motherhood doesn’t get much better than this!* I was completely satisfied. I thank God for the moments I have with my children, sometimes rare in the frenzied pace of life, but filled with love and peace.

For what wonderful memories of time spent with your children do you thank God?

## 2

**ARRIVAL ACTIVITIES**

Plan simple play activities on a blanket, sheet, or quilt for children who arrive early. The children participate in these activities, under the supervision of an adult, until the program begins. The child's play should be with materials that relate to the program, which is based on the monthly Bible story.

Choose from the following suggested activities for this month. Be sure to include something for the span of children's ages.

**A. Book Basket**

Provide a basket of sturdy board books about trees or another of God's gifts of love to us.

**B. Peekaboo Basket**

This basket includes hand towels and play objects (a block, ball, rattle, or toy stuffed animal). Parents hide an object under the towel. The children will enjoy playing peekaboo to find something that God has made, as the parent says this rhyme:

Let's see who  
Finds a (name of object)  
God made for you. (*Child picks up the object.*)  
(Name) did! (*Hug child. Affirm child.*)

**C. Rock-a-Bye, Baby**

Provide dolls and blankets. The children hold and rock their babies

while singing to the tune "Rock-a-Bye, Baby."

Rock-a-bye, baby, Jesus is near.  
While you are sleeping we will not fear.  
Jesus is watching; He's always here.  
Rock-a-bye, baby, Rock-a-bye, dear.  
—Traditional. Adapted.

**D. Climbing Blocks**

See room decorations for the month. Set up climbing blocks near the tree so the children can feel that they are climbing like Zacchaeus. If you have a small slide available you may want to try that.

**E. Measuring**

Zacchaeus was a small man. During the month measure each of the children and mark their height on a growth chart taped to a wall. Hug each child and say that Jesus loves us no matter how big or small we are.

**F. Counting**

On the table outside the house (see Room Decorations) have stacks of large objects to count, different colors if possible, and containers. Let the children count the objects into different containers.

**G. Rocking Chair**

Have an adult-size rocking chair available for parents to hold and rock children who are too tired or shy to join in the activities.

## 3

## GETTING STARTED

**A. Welcome**

Say: **Good morning, boys and girls! I'm so happy to see you today.** Greet each child with a smile, hug, kiss, or handshake as you sing "Good Morning" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 1).

Good morning, Good morning,  
Good morning we say;  
We're happy, so happy to see you  
today!

—Janet Sage

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**You Need:**

☐ bells

Say: **Sabbath School is a special place. In Sabbath School we learn about being the kind of boys and girls Jesus wants us to be. Let's ring our bells to tell Jesus how happy we are for Sabbath School.**

Distribute bells for the children to ring as you sing "I'm Glad I Came to Sabbath School" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 5).

I'm glad I came to Sabbath school,  
I'm glad I came to Sabbath school,  
I'm glad I came to Sabbath school  
On this bright Sabbath morning.

—Edith Smith Casebeer

**B. Prayer Time**

Say: **I want to thank God for loving us all the time.** To prepare for prayer, sing "When It's Time to Pray" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 17).

When it's time to pray I bend my  
knees,  
Fold my hands, bow my head.  
When It's time to pray I close my eyes,  
and then I talk to Jesus.

—Janet Sage. Adapted.

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Introduce the popcorn prayer to the parents and children. Ask the parents to take turns saying their children's names in random, spontaneous fashion. Begin the prayer by saying: Jesus, thank You for loving \_\_\_\_\_. The parents will "pop" out their child/children's names. When everyone has had a turn, close the prayer by saying: **Thank You for loving us all the time. Amen.**

Sing "Tiny Tot Response" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 21).

Thank You, Jesus, for ev'rything.  
Amen.

—Joy Hicklin Stewart

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### C. Visitors

Welcome each visitor individually and then sing, "We're Glad You Came to Our Sabbath School" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 25).

We're glad you came to our Sabbath school.

Won't you come again?

We're glad you came to our Sabbath school.

Won't you come again?

—Mary E. Schwab

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### D. Offering

#### You Need:

- ☐ box or basket with heart shapes attached
- ☐ pictures or stickers of Jesus

Reinforce this month's message—Jesus loves me all the time—by adding heart shapes and pictures or stickers of Jesus to an offering container.

Say: **We learn about Jesus' love in Sabbath School. But some boys and girls don't know about**

**Him. We bring our offering to help other boys and girls learn that Jesus loves them too.** Sing "Offering Prayer Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 33).

We have bro't our off'ring on this Sabbath day.

Bless our gift, dear Jesus. May it help someone, we pray.

—Norma June Bell

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### E. Birthdays

Say: **Someone here has had a birthday. Do you know who it is? Close your eyes and we'll find out.**

Lead the birthday child up front to a special birthday chair while you sing "A Birthday" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 36).

A birthday, a birthday,

O who has had a birthday?

Come sit right here and we will sing,  
To wish you happy birthday.

—Mildred Adair

#### You Need:

- ☐ artificial birthday cake
- ☐ candles or coins
- ☐ matches
- ☐ small gift (optional)

Light the candle(s) or help the child drop the coin(s) into the artificial cake or other container while you sing "Count the Birthday Money" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 37).

Mary\* has a birthday, we're so glad.  
We will see how many she\* has had.  
As we count the money (candles) we are told [count]

Yes, the money says (candles say)  
she's\* two\* years old.

\*insert name, appropriate pronoun, and age of child.

Light the birthday candle(s) and then lead in singing "Happy Birthday to You."

Happy birthday to you,  
Happy birthday to you,  
Jesus loves you, dear [child's name],  
Happy birthday to you.

—Traditional. Adapted.

Encourage the child to blow out the candle(s). If possible, give the child a small gift from Sabbath School. Say a special birthday prayer thanking Jesus for the child.



## EXPERIENCING THE STORY

### A. Memory Verse

#### You Need:

- ☐ felt or cardboard "Bibles"

Say: **It's time to look in our Bibles.** Distribute small felt or cardboard "Bibles" to the children.

Say: **What do you see in your Bible?** (Take responses.)

**The Bible teaches us that Jesus loves us all the time. He helps us to do what is right. Our memory verse today tells us that God loves us. It says, "God is love." Say that with me. Let's sing our memory verse.** Sing the words to "Jesus Is Love" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 99). Point upward on "God."

Love, God is love;  
Love, God is love.  
God loves Bobby\* and David\* and  
Susie\*

Because God is love.

—Susan Davis. Adapted.

\* Use the names of children in your class.

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### B. Find the Money

#### You Need:

- ☐ large cutout coins (see p. 67)
- ☐ basket or large purse

Beforehand, make large cutouts of paper coins. Hide the "coins" throughout the room. Say: **Zacchaeus was a tax collector. That means his job was to collect money from other people. There is some money hidden in our Sabbath School room**

**today. Can you help me find it?**

Instruct the children to find the money and place it in the container. Sing the following words to the tune of "Here Is My Money" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 32).

Zacchaeus collected the money,  
the money, the money;  
Zacchaeus collected the money,  
They gave their money to him.

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Say: **Zacchaeus wasn't always fair. He often took more money than he should have. That was cheating. People knew he cheated. But when Zacchaeus heard about Jesus, he was sorry he had cheated people.**

**Zacchaeus tried to tell the people that he was sorry, but they didn't believe him, and they still didn't like him.**

**Poor Zacchaeus felt sad. If only He could see Jesus! He knew if he could just see Jesus' face, he wouldn't feel sad anymore. It wouldn't matter how the other people treated him.**

### C. Jesus Comes to Town

Say: **One day Jesus came into the town where Zacchaeus lived. There were many people in the streets wanting to see Jesus. People were crowded all over. It was like a parade. Let's pretend we are there, wanting to see Jesus as we walk around the room.** Sing "Our Parade" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 41).

Let's walk together in our parade,  
In our parade, in our parade.  
Let's walk together in our parade,  
Walk in our parade.

Second verse:

Let's clap together in our parade.

—Traditional.

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## D. Climb a Tree

### You Need:

- ☐ tree used in room decorations
- ☐ short stepladder (three steps)
- ☐ large picture or felt Jesus

Place the picture or felt Jesus behind the tree. Say: **All of you are little children. It is sometimes hard for you to see everything.**

**Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he was little, and he needed help, because there were so many taller**

**people crowding around Jesus. Zacchaeus saw a tall tree and decided to climb up high so he could see Jesus.**

**Would you like to climb up and see Jesus? Let's sing our song one time and do the motions together. Then you can take turns climbing the ladder to see Jesus.**

Have the children take turns climbing the steps or ladder and peek over to see the picture of Jesus as you sing "Zacchaeus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 63).

**Zacchaeus was a wee little man,** *Hands in front, right palm above left palm.*

**A wee little man was he.** *Bring palms closer.*

**He climbed up in a sycamore tree,** *Alternate hands in climbing motion.*

**For the Lord he wanted to see.** *Shade eyes with one hand; look down.*

**And as the Saviour passed that way,**

**He looked up in the tree,**

*Shade eyes with one hand; look up.*

[Spoken:]

**And He said: "Zacchaeus, you come down,**

*Look up, wag a finger in admonition.*

**For I'm going to your house today,**

*Clap hands on accented beat.*

**For I'm going to your house today."**

*Clap hands on accented beat.*

—Unknown

Arrangement © 1943 Mrs. Newell Schaper.

Say: **Jesus loved Zacchaeus, and He loves you all the time. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to "Jesus Is Love" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 99). Point upward on "God."

Love, God is love;  
Love, God is love.  
God loves Bobby\* and David\* and  
Susie\*

Because God is love.

—Susan Davis. Adapted.

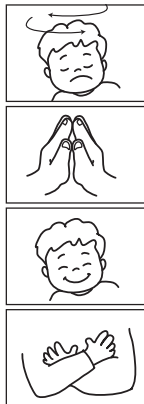
\*Use the names of children in your class.

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## E. Jesus Forgives

Say: **Zacchaeus saw Jesus! And Jesus saw Zacchaeus! When Jesus looked into Zacchaeus's face and smiled, Zacchaeus knew that Jesus had forgiven him for taking money he shouldn't have taken. And Zacchaeus knew that Jesus loved him!**

**Hooray for Jesus! Let's do the motions while we sing together about Jesus forgiving us.** Sing "Jesus Smiles and Forgives" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 77).



**I did wrong, that's too bad;**

*Shake head "no" and frown.*

**I'll tell Jesus I am sad.**

*Fold hands in prayer.*

**He will smile from above**

*Smile.*

**And forgive in His love.**

*Place arms crisscross over heart.*

—Adriana Itin Femopase

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Say: **Jesus forgives you and loves you all the time. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Jesus Is Love" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 99). Point upward on "God."

Love, God is love;  
Love, God is love.  
God loves Bobby\* and David\* and  
Susie\*  
Because God is love.

—Susan Davis. Adapted.

\*Use the names of children in your class.

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## F. Dinner Guest

### You Need:

- ☐ table and chair from room decorations
- ☐ plastic plates and cups
- ☐ snack (optional)

Say: **When Jesus looked up in the tree and saw Zacchaeus, He said "Zacchaeus, you come down. I want to come and eat at your house."**

**Zacchaeus loved Jesus, and he was excited to have Jesus come to his**

**house. You can come and sit at the table as we sing about Jesus visiting Zacchaeus.**

Have the children come and sit at the table. If appropriate in your setting, offer a snack of fruit or crackers. Otherwise have the children pretend to eat. Sing the following words to "I Am Happy as Can Be!" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 214).

I am happy as can be!  
I am happy as can be  
For Jesus came and ate some food  
with me!

—Janet Sage. Adapted.

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Say: **Jesus loves us all the time. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Jesus Is Love" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 99). Point upward on "God."

Love, God is love;  
Love, God is love.  
God loves Bobby\* and David\* and  
Susie\*  
Because God is love.

—Susan Davis. Adapted.

\*Use the names of children in your class.

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## G. Return the Money

### You Need:

- ☐ large cutout coins (see p. 67)
- ☐ basket or large purse

Say: **Jesus loved Zacchaeus so much. And Zacchaeus loved Jesus.**

**Zacchaeus wanted to obey Jesus' rules and not cheat anymore. He**

**wanted to do good things. He told Jesus that he was sorry for all the bad things he had done. Jesus forgave him.**

**Zacchaeus decided to give back all the money that he had stolen. You can come and get some coins to give to someone else like Zacchaeus did.**

Have the children take the large cutout coins and give them to each other or their parents while you sing an adaptation of verse 7 of "I Give Myself to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 192).

I want to be like Jesus,  
God's rules I will obey.  
I want to be like Jesus,  
And take just what is mine.

—Joy Hicklin Stewart

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Say: **Zacchaeus must have felt so happy. Jesus had forgiven him. Jesus had come to his house to eat. Jesus loved him!**

**Let's sing about how happy Zacchaeus was, and how happy we are that Jesus loves us too. Sing "Alway" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 128).**

**I may not be very tall,**

**But I can love Jesus best of all!**

**And when He comes on that happy day,**

**Then I'll be with Him always!**

*Stand tall and stretch arms up over head.*

*Crisscross arms across chest.*

*Point upward and smile.*

*Crisscross arms across chest.*  
—Virginia Cason.



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Say: **Jesus loves us all the time. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Jesus Is Love" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 99). Point upward on "God."

Love, God is love;  
Love, God is love.  
God loves Bobby\* and David\* and  
Susie\*  
Because God is love.

—Susan Davis. Adapted.

\*Use the names of children in your class.

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## H. Jesus Loves Us

### You Need:

- ☐ Jesus banners
- ☐ mirror
- ☐ children of the world felts or pictures

Say: **Jesus loved Zacchaeus and forgave him, even though Zacchaeus had not been nice to other people. Jesus showed him that it is better when we are not mean, but are kind to others. Let's sing about how much Jesus loves us.** Wave Jesus banners on sticks and sing "Jesus Loves Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 102).

Jesus loves me! this I know,  
For the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong,  
They are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

—William B. Bradbury

**Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Jesus Is Love" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 99). Point upward on "God."

Love, God is love;  
Love, God is love.  
God loves Bobby\* and David\* and  
Susie\*  
Because God is love.

—Susan Davis. Adapted.

\*Use the names of children in your class.

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Say: **Jesus loves us all of the time. Jesus loves each one of us so much. We are very special to Him. Let's look into the mirror and sing.**

As you come to each child place their name in the place of the "me, me, me." Sing "Jesus Loves the Little Ones" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 107).

Jesus loves the little ones like (name, name, name).

Jesus loves the little ones like (name, name, name).

Little ones like (name), sat upon His knee,

Jesus loves the little ones like (name, name, name).

—Sidney E. Cox. Adapted.

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Say: **Jesus loved Zacchaeus even when no one else did. Jesus was very happy that Zacchaeus learned to love Him. Jesus loves us, too. He loves all the boys and girls no matter where they live. We should love all the boys and girls of the world, no matter if they look different, talk different, or wear different kinds of clothes than we do. Let's sing about Jesus loving all the children of the world.**

Distribute felts or pictures or finger puppets of children from different parts of the world, and let the children put them on a board. Sing the adapted words to "Jesus Loves the Children" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 106).

Jesus loves the little children,  
All the children of the world;  
In shades of brown and black and  
white,  
All are precious in His sight—  
Jesus loves the little children of the  
world.

—George F. Root. Adapted.

Say: **Jesus loves all the little children, and He loves you all the time. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Jesus Is Love" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 99). Point upward on "God."

Love, God is love;  
Love, God is love.  
God loves Bobby\* and David\* and  
Susie\*  
Because God is love.  
—Susan Davis. Adapted.

\*Use the names of children in your class.

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## 5

## MAKE AND TAKE (Optional)

Have the children sit around small tables. Parents or other adults should assist children to do one of the following as you review the lesson story.

### Week 1

#### Tree

##### You Need:

- ☐ copies of tree outline (see p. 68)
- ☐ crayons
- ☐ cotton balls, pressed leaves, or green paper
- ☐ glue sticks

Beforehand, make copies of the tree outline (see p. 68). Have the children color in the trunk. Then they can glue either cotton balls, pressed leaves, or pieces of torn green paper inside the tree shape. Talk about how Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus.

### Week 3

#### Leaf Rubbing

In advance, collect large leaves with veins. Give each child a piece of paper. Help them make a leaf rubbing by placing a leaf under the paper and coloring over it, using a thick crayon. Talk about how Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus.

##### You Need:

- ☐ large leaves with veins
- ☐ plain white paper
- ☐ thick crayons

### Week 2

#### Jesus Loves You

##### You Need:

- ☐ copies of heart (see p. 69)
- ☐ glue sticks (optional)
- ☐ Jesus stickers or pictures of Jesus
- ☐ pencils

Beforehand, make copies of the heart pattern (see p. 69). Have the parents write their child's name in the blank and help the children place a sticker or glue a picture of Jesus in the middle of the heart. Talk about how much Jesus loves them. When finished, hold up their hearts while they sing the

memory verse song together.

### Week 4

#### Coin Purse

Beforehand, cut out the paper "coins." Give each child an envelope to decorate with crayons or stickers. Give them each a few paper coins to put in their coin purse. Talk about how Zacchaeus collected tax money, about how he cheated, about how Jesus changed his heart, and about how he gave back more than he had taken from the people.

##### You Need:

- ☐ small envelopes
- ☐ "coins" printed on heavy gray paper (see p. 67)
- ☐ crayons or stickers

## Week 5 (or optional activity) *Jesus Loves Me*

### You Need:

- ☐ white paper
- ☐ crayons
- ☐ markers
- ☐ copies of three-section card (see p. 70)

In advance, prepare photocopies of the three-section card with morning, afternoon, and night scenes (see p. 70).

Distribute the copies and crayons. Have the parents help the children color the three scenes, then fold the paper on the fold lines so it will stand alone. On the outside "front cover" have the parents write "Jesus loves (child's name) all the time."

As the children work, sing "Jesus Loves Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 102).

### Snack Center (Optional)

### You Need:

- ☐ fruit pieces and crackers
- ☐ napkins
- ☐ baby wipes or damp paper towels

If you choose to have a snack time, keep it simple. Use "finger" foods and be sure to clean the children's hands afterward.

Provide small pieces of several different kinds of fruit, and crackers or pretzels. Invite the children to imagine that Zacchaeus has invited them home for a meal. Say:

**Please taste your pretzel.**

**Please taste your banana.**

Continue until they have an opportunity to sample each item. Have the

children use baby wipes or damp paper towels to clean their hands.

Say: **There are so many good things to eat. Who made all these good things for us to enjoy? Jesus did. Jesus loves me all the time.**

**Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Jesus Is Love" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 99). Point upward on "God."

Love, God is love;

Love, God is love.

God loves Bobby\* and David\* and

Susie\*

Because God is love.

—Susan Davis. Adapted.

\*Use the names of children in your class.

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### Bible Activities

If there is still time, families may choose from a variety of activities that reinforce this month's Bible story. Those activities listed as Arrival Activities may be used again. In addition, you may want to provide a snack at one table.

### Closing

Say: **Jesus loved Zacchaeus. Jesus loves you all the time.** Say a short prayer similar to the following: **Dear Jesus, thank You for loving all of us all the time. Amen.**

Sing together "Sabbath School Is Over" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 46).

Our Sabbath School is over,  
And we are going now.  
Goodbye, goodbye,  
Be always kind and true.  
Goodbye, goodbye,  
Be always kind and true.

**Notes**

STUDENT LESSON

# Zacchaeus Climbs a Tree

## References

Luke 19:1-10;  
*The Desire of Ages*,  
 pp. 552-556.

## Memory Verse

"God is love"  
 (1 John 4:8,  
 NIV).

## The Message

Jesus loves me  
 all the time.

*Kip cannot see in the nest. He will climb on the stool. Once a little man climbed high to see Jesus.*

Zacchaeus is a little man. *(Point to Zacchaeus.)* He is not tall. But Zacchaeus lives in a big house. *(Point to his house.)* "I want Jesus to come to my house," Zacchaeus says. "But sometimes I am not good. Maybe Jesus does not love me."

Will Jesus go home with Zacchaeus? "Jesus is coming today," Zacchaeus says. *(Point to Zacchaeus.)* "I will go see Him." So Zacchaeus puts on his hat. *(Wrap a thin towel or scarf around child's head.)*

"Goodbye," Zacchaeus says. "I'm going to see Jesus." *(Wave goodbye; walk around the room.)*

"Jesus is coming!" the people shout.

*(Whisper, finger to lips.)* "See Jesus!" *(Point to Jesus.)*

But Zacchaeus cannot see Jesus. *(Shake head; use sad voice.)* Zacchaeus is too short.

Zacchaeus stands on tiptoe. *(Stand on tiptoe; shade eyes.)* Zacchaeus still cannot see.

Climb, Zacchaeus, climb! *(Lift your child high in your arms.)* Climb up in the tree. Now Zacchaeus is not too short. See how high he climbs!

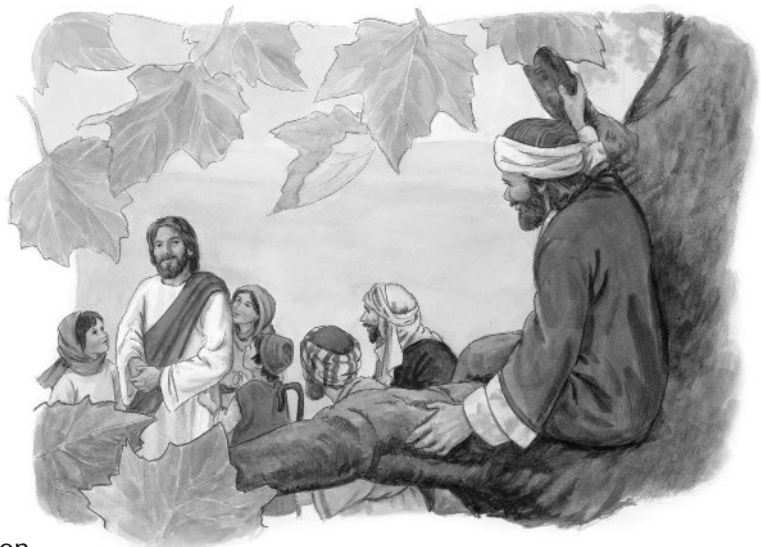
Look, Zacchaeus, look! What do you see? *(Point to objects in the picture and help the child name them.)*

Walking, walking. *(Child stands on a chair.)* Jesus is walking by. Zacchaeus sees Jesus going by. *(Walk beside child's chair.)*

Jesus stops. *(Stop walking.)* Jesus looks up in the tree. *(Look at child.)* "Hello, Zacchaeus in the tree." *(Touch your child's nose; make your child laugh.)*

Jesus smiles at Zacchaeus. *(Smile at child.)* Zacchaeus smiles back.

"Zacchaeus!" Jesus calls. "Come down! Come down! I am going to your house today."



*(Help child jump down.)* Yea, for Zacchaeus! Jesus loves him all the time! *(Clap.)*

So Jesus goes to Zacchaeus's house. *(Point to Zacchaeus and Jesus.)* Because Jesus loves Zacchaeus all the time.

Jesus loves you and me all the time too! *(Pick up your child and swing him or her high.)*

# Do & Say

**1.** Climb a chair, the stairs, or a small tree while holding your child. Talk about how Zacchaeus climbed the tree to see Jesus.

**2.** Go for a walk and look at the trees. Collect leaves from different trees. Put them between newspaper and place them under a weight to press them.

**3.** Visit a friend, just as Jesus visited Zacchaeus.

**4.** Help your child glue some leaves to a card and write "God Loves You" on it. Give the card to a family member or friend. Say together: God loves us all the time.

**5.** Find pictures of animals and their homes. Talk about God's love and care for animals. Say: God loves us all the time.

**6.** Ask your child: What special food would you want to serve if Jesus were coming to our house? Let your child help prepare and serve it for Sabbath dinner.

**7.** Tell your child to jump for joy as Zacchaeus did when he heard that Jesus was coming to his house. Sing "Zacchaeus Was a Wee Little Man."

**8.** Zacchaeus was a small man. How many

small things can you and your child find in the room you are in? Count them together.

**9.** Help your child look in a mirror and make the kind of face Zacchaeus had when he heard that Jesus was coming to his house.

**10.** Let your child invite a friend to dinner. Have your child help set the table.

**11.** Make a leaf rubbing to share with a friend. Sing about Zacchaeus while you work.

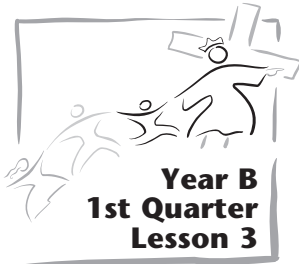
**12.** Sing together "Jesus Loves Me." Insert your child's name. Say: God loves us all the time.

**13.** Let your child help you cut celery into two-inch (5-centimeter) sticks. Fill with peanut butter and put raisins on top. Serve them as a special treat for the rest of the family.

**14.** Help your child measure something tall and something small. Measure your child's height. Tall or small?

**15.** Help your child make "binoculars" by taping together two empty toilet paper rolls. Paint or decorate them. Use them to "look up" into trees.

# LESSON



## The Great Parade

### WORSHIP

Worship makes us joyful every day.

#### References

Luke 19:28-44; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 569-579.

#### Memory Verse

"Sing to the Lord" (Psalm 98:1, NIV).

#### Objectives

##### The children will:

**Know** that it is good to praise God.

**Feel** happy for the things God does for us.

**Respond** by joining in to sing praise songs in Sabbath School, church, and family worship.

#### The Message



I can sing praises to Jesus.

## Getting Ready to Teach

#### The Bible Lesson at a Glance

This is the story of the triumphal entry told very simply. Jesus' friends have a parade for Him. Jesus rides on a colt. The people watching sing and shout hosanna. They toss palm branches at Jesus' feet. They put their coats down for Jesus to ride on. They praise Him for the wonderful things He has done.

#### *This is a lesson about worship.*

Worship is our response to God's amazing grace. Just as did the Jews out-

side of Jerusalem that day, we too are compelled to praise Jesus when we remember what He has done for us. Our children learn to praise as they watch our response to Jesus' wonderful gifts. We can praise Jesus for the wonderful things He does for us.

#### Teacher Enrichment

"No sooner was [Jesus] seated upon the colt than a loud shout of triumph rent the air. The multitude hailed Him as Messiah, their King. Jesus now accepted



# THREE



the homage which He had never before permitted, and the disciples received this as proof that their glad hopes were to be realized by seeing Him established on the throne. The multitude were convinced that the hour of their emancipation was at hand. . . . All were happy and excited; the people vied with one another in paying Him homage. They could not display outward pomp and splendor, but they gave Him the worship of happy hearts. They were unable to present Him with costly gifts, but they spread their outer

garments as a carpet in His path, and they also strewed the leafy branches of the olive and the palm in the way. They could lead the triumphal procession with no royal standards, but they cut down the spreading palm boughs, Nature's emblem of victory, and waved them aloft with loud acclamations and hosannas" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 570).

## Room Decorations

See Lesson 1. Add paper palm branches under or near the tree.

# Program Overview

	LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
	<b>Welcome</b>	ongoing	Greet students	
1	<b>Parent Time</b>	up to 5		
2	<b>Arrival Activities</b>	up to 10	A. <i>Book Basket</i> B. <i>Animal Corner</i> C. <i>Peekaboo Basket</i> D. <i>Zoo Corner</i> E. <i>Rock-a-Bye, Baby</i> F. <i>Rocking Chair</i> G. <i>Praise Basket</i> H. <i>Discovery House</i> I. <i>Puzzles</i>	books about gifts from God stuffed animals and soft sculptured objects hand towels, play objects block sets of animals baby dolls, blankets adult-size rocking chair musical instruments cardboard house with flaps, pictures (see pp. 71-74) pictures of triumphal entry, Jesus, donkey, palm branches, etc., cut into puzzles
3	<b>Getting Started</b>	up to 10	Welcome Prayer Visitors Offering Birthdays	bells pretty container artificial birthday cake, candles, coins, matches, small gift (optional)
4	<b>Experiencing the Story</b>	up to 30	A. <i>Memory Verse</i> B. <i>Find the Donkey</i> C. <i>Jesus Rode a Donkey</i> D. <i>Make a Path</i> E. <i>Wave Palm Branches</i> F. <i>Clap, Sing, and Praise</i> G. <i>Praise the Creator</i> H. <i>My Best Friend</i> I. <i>Praise Parade</i> J. <i>Praise Him Anytime</i> K. <i>We Praise Jesus—Discovery House</i>	felt or cardboard “Bibles,” sticks or drums with sticks toy donkey or picture of donkey sticks clothing items, toy stuffed donkey (optional) paper palm branches (see p. 75) musical instruments (optional) felt suns and moons, spray water bottle house with flaps and pictures for each child (see pp. 71-74) scissors, crayons or markers, glue, card stock

LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
<b>5 Make and Take (Optional)</b>	up to 10 <b>Week 1</b>	<i>Praise Flag</i>	drinking straws and paper, or wooden dowel rods and pieces of fabric; glue sticks
	<b>Week 2</b>	<i>Megaphone</i>	sheet of lightweight card stock, tape, crayons
	<b>Week 3</b>	<i>Praise Shaker</i>	empty plastic containers with screw-on lids, small pebbles or dried grains, stickers/colored paper/pictures, glue sticks
	<b>Week 4</b>	<i>Palm Branches</i>	basic leaf pattern (see p. 75), letter-size paper, pencils, glue, scissors
	<b>Week 5 (Optional)</b>	<i>Donkey Mask</i>	donkey pattern (see p. 76), piece of cardboard for each child (the inside of a cereal box works well) or a paper plate, gray crayons, thin elastic, stapler
<b>Snack Center (Optional)</b>			balloons/streamers, snack food, paper leaves

## 1

**PARENT TIME**

Busy parents often arrive at church tired and worn out from the week's activities and from getting the family ready for the "day of rest." Share a word of encouragement with them sometime during Sabbath School (possibly during Arrival Activities), something that will express your care and concern for them. The following statements were prepared by young mothers and fathers as suggestions, and may be used at your discretion at any time you wish.

**Week 1**

"Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of

such is the kingdom of heaven.' He took the children in his arms, and blessed them, and spoke words of encouragement and sympathy to the mothers, and both mothers and children returned to their homes strengthened and blessed by the divine love of the Master. They loved Jesus, and often repeated to others the story of their visit. They told how the disciples had forbidden them, but how the Lord had had compassion upon them" (*The Bible Echo*, Dec. 15, 1892).

What kind of blessing do you seek as you come to church each week? Do you receive it? Why?

## Week 2

I love driving and hearing my child in the backseat humming a song he made up. We listen to a lot of music in the car at the children's request, but my favorite is their own music.

"Let there be singing in the home, of songs that are sweet and pure, and there will be fewer words of censure and more of cheerfulness and hope and joy" (*Child Guidance*, p. 523).

How can you use music to make your home life more pleasant? What types of music do you think would be most helpful?

## Week 3

We have made it a tradition to go to the harbor city for the annual holiday lighted boat parade. It's fun to see yachts, sailboats, tugboats, and others creatively decorated with lights parade past us as we wave back and clap. The children are excited to go every year, except for worries about the "big boom." A large frigate shoots off mock cannons to start the parade. It is loud! My children cover their ears—they used to cry—and bury themselves in our laps! During the parade they continue to ask if the cannon is going to fire again.

Now think of the parade Jesus was in. Nothing scary about that! The children didn't cover their ears or run away and hide. Children were not afraid of Jesus—they had no reason to be. How wonderful that our children have no reason to fear our precious Jesus either.

Tell about a time your child showed fear of something. How could you use their love of Jesus to help them overcome that fear?

## Week 4

I love to organize and get rid of unused items. But the one thing that I

cherish most and will not give away is my glider rocking chair. Besides being a very comfortable piece of furniture that now sits in my family room with recovered cushions, it has wonderful memories attached to it.

Both of my children nursed as I rocked in that rocking chair. I remember fuzzy warm heads held close to me. I loved summer. They would be wearing shorts or just a diaper and undershirt and I could easily caress their soft skin and pudgy legs and feet as they nursed. I would rock and sing "Jesus Loves Me" as they drifted off to sleep.

"Jesus Loves Me" was the first song both of my boys hummed when they were about 8 months old. It amazed me to hear my oldest hum it for the first time. I was glad I had put a song about Jesus in his mind that hopefully will last a lifetime—and a lot longer than my rocking chair.

What piece of equipment from your child's babyhood will you cherish most? What kind of things are you putting in your child's mind that will last a lifetime?

## Week 5 (or optional)

One evening we were reading the lesson story to our children. Brazen, age 2, saw a picture of Jesus. "Look, Mommy!" he shouted. "There Jesus! I like Jesus! Jesus nice to me. Jesus hug me!"

I was so tickled. "When does Jesus hug you, honey?" I asked.

"Jesus hug me!" he repeated. The time and place weren't important. The important thing was that Jesus hugs Brazen. When Jesus was on earth He took the children in His arms and blessed them. My little son told me Jesus does the same thing today.

Picture Jesus holding and hugging your child. Do you see Jesus hugging you, too?

## 2

## ARRIVAL ACTIVITIES

Plan simple play activities on a blanket, sheet, or quilt for children who arrive early. The children participate in these activities, under the supervision of an adult, until the program begins. The child's play should be with materials that relate to the program, which is based on the monthly Bible story.

Choose from the following suggested activities for this month. Be sure to include something for the span of children's ages.

**A. Book Basket**

Provide a basket full of sturdy board books about trees or God's gifts of love to us—the beautiful gifts He has given us.

**B. Animal Corner**

Provide toy stuffed animals (some that make noises) and soft sculptured objects for children to hold.

**C. Peekaboo Basket**

This basket includes hand towels and play objects (a block, ball, rattle, or toy stuffed animal). Parents hide an object under the towel. The children will enjoy playing peekaboo to find something that God has made as the parent says this rhyme:

Let's see who  
Finds a (name of object)  
God made for you. (*Child picks up the object.*)  
(Name) did! (*Hug child. Affirm child.*)

**D. Zoo Corner**

Families can use block sets (zoo, water park, etc.) to build a zoo and play with the animals that God made. Adults say: "See the (name of the animals) that God made. What does

the (name of animal) say?"

**E. Rock-a-Bye, Baby**

Provide baby dolls and blankets. The children hold and rock their babies while singing to the tune "Rock-a-bye Baby":

Rock-a-bye, baby, Jesus is near.  
While you are sleeping we will not fear.  
Jesus is watching; He's always here.  
Rock-a-bye, baby, Rock-a-bye, dear.  
—Traditional. Adapted.

**F. Rocking Chair**

For children who may be too shy or sleepy to join in the activities, parents can sit and rock their child.

**G. Praise Basket**

Fill a basket with a variety of instruments. Encourage the children to play the instruments as you sing a simple praise song. Talk about how we worship Jesus when we sing praises to Him.

**H. Discovery House**

Cut out a large house shape of cardboard with eight to 10 flaps that open to reveal pictures of things for which we can praise Jesus (see pages 71-74). Some ideas for pictures include: food, clothing, family, toys, friends, animals, flowers, stars, houses, and teachers. Say: **We praise You, Jesus, for** (insert name of exposed picture).

**I. Puzzles**

Use existing pictures of the triumphal entry, Jesus, palm branches, or donkeys. Cut them into two or three pieces and encourage the children to put the puzzles together. Say: **Jesus rode on a donkey. The people sang praises to Him.**

## 3

## GETTING STARTED

**A. Welcome**

Say: **Good morning, boys and girls! I'm so happy to see you today.**

Greet each child with a smile, hug, kiss, or handshake as you sing "Good Morning" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 1).

Good morning, Good morning.  
Good morning, we say;  
We're happy, so happy to see you  
today!

—Janet Sage

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**B. Prayer Time**

Say: **Jesus wants to be with us in our Sabbath School today as we learn more about Him. Let's ask Him to be with us.** Prepare for prayer by singing "Let's Have a Talk With Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 11).

Let's have a talk with Jesus,  
Let's close our eyes and say,  
"Dear Jesus, please be with us  
In Sabbath school today."

—Kathleen Maguire

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**You Need:**

☐ bells

Say: **Sabbath School is a special place. In Sabbath School we learn how to be the boys and girls Jesus wants us to be. Let's ring our bells to tell**

**Jesus how happy we are to be in Sabbath School.** Distribute bells for the children to ring as you sing "I'm Glad I Came to Sabbath School" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 5).

I'm glad I came to Sabbath school,  
I'm glad I came to Sabbath school,  
I'm glad I came to Sabbath school,  
On this bright Sabbath morning.

—Edith Smith Casebeer

Say a simple prayer similar to the following, and ask the children to repeat your phrases: **Dear Jesus, thank You for Sabbath and for Sabbath School. Thank You for being with us in Sabbath School. Help us to be more like You. Amen.**

Sing "Tiny Tot Response" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 21).

Thank You, Jesus, for ev'rything.  
Amen.

—Joy Hicklin Stewart

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### C. Visitors

Welcome each visitor individually.  
Then sing, "We're Glad You Came to  
Our Sabbath School" (*Little Voices Praise  
Him*, No. 25).

We're glad you came to our Sabbath  
school.  
Won't you come again?  
We're glad you came to our Sabbath  
school.  
Won't you come again?  
—Mary E. Schwab

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### D. Offering

#### You Need:

- ☐ pretty bowl  
or basket  
or other  
offering  
container

Say: **We learn  
about Jesus in  
Sabbath School. But  
some boys and girls  
don't know about  
Him. We bring our  
offering to help  
other boys and girls**

**learn that Jesus loves them, too.**

Place a pretty basket or bowl (or  
other container) on the floor in which  
the children may place their offering.  
Sing "Offering Prayer Song" (*Little Voices  
Praise Him*, No. 33).

We have bro't our offering on this  
Sabbath day.  
Bless our gift, dear Jesus. May it help  
someone, we pray.  
—Norma June Bell

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sion of AdventSource.

### E. Birthdays

Say: **Someone here has had  
a birthday. Do you know who  
it is? Close your eyes and we'll  
find out.**

Lead the birthday child up front  
to a special birthday chair while  
you sing "A Birthday" (*Little Voices  
Praise Him*, No. 36).

A birthday, a birthday,  
O who has had a birthday?  
Come sit right here and we will sing,  
To wish you happy birthday.

—Mildred Adair

#### You Need:

- ☐ artificial  
birthday  
cake
- ☐ candles or  
coins
- ☐ matches
- ☐ small gift  
(optional)

Light the candle(s) or help the child  
drop the coin(s) into the artificial cake or  
other container while you sing "Count  
the Birthday Money" (*Little Voices Praise  
Him*, No. 37).

Mary\* has a birthday, we're so glad.  
We will see how many she\* has had.  
As we count the money (candles) we  
are told [count]  
Yes, the money says (candles say)  
she's\* two\* years old.

\*Insert name, appropriate pronoun, and age of child.

Light the birthday candle(s) and then  
lead in singing "Happy Birthday to You."

Happy birthday to you,  
Happy birthday to you,  
Jesus loves you, dear [child's name],  
Happy birthday to you.  
—Traditional. Adapted.

Encourage the child to blow out the  
candle(s). If possible, give the child a  
small gift from Sabbath School. Say a  
special birthday prayer thanking Jesus  
for the child.





## EXPERIENCING THE STORY

### A. Memory Verse

#### You Need:

- ☐ felt or cardboard "Bibles"
- ☐ sticks or drums with sticks

Distribute small individual felt or cardboard "Bibles" to the children. Say: **Let's look inside our Bibles. The Bible tells us that we worship Jesus when we sing praises to Him. We want to sing praises to Jesus.**

Sing the memory verse words to the tune of "Praise to Jesus"

(*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

(Option: Use rhythm sticks or drums.

Repeat the memory verse several times as you keep a rhythm with the sticks.)

Sing to the Lord!

Sing to the Lord!

We praise Him,

We praise Him,

We sing to Him!

### B. Find the Donkey

#### You Need:

- ☐ toy donkey or picture of donkey

Beforehand, hide a toy donkey or picture of a donkey somewhere in the room. Say: **Have you ever been to a parade in which everyone is marching, and there are lots and lots of people? Our Bible story today is about a day when Jesus went to Jerusalem. It was just like a parade.**

**Everyone wanted to see Jesus.**

**They wanted to praise Him. They waved palm branches, and everyone had a wonderful time. Jesus didn't walk. He rode on a donkey that He sent His friends to find for Him. We have a donkey hidden in the room. Can you help me to find it?**

When the children have found it, ask them to close their eyes while you hide it again. Sing "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222). Repeat several times.

Praise to Jesus!

Praise to Jesus!

We praise Him,

We praise Him,

We praise Him!

—Janet Sage

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### C. Jesus Rode a Donkey

#### You Need:

- ☐ sticks (optional)

Ask: **How many of you have ridden on a donkey or a horse? It's not as smooth as riding**

**in a car. You bounce up and down. Can you bounce up and down?**

Let the children bounce up and down where they are sitting.

**What sound do the hooves of the donkey make? (clip-clop-clip-clop) Can you help me make a noise like a donkey?** The children can either say "clip-clop," or give them two sticks to hit together.

Say: **Let's walk down the road pretending to be donkeys while we sing about the little donkey that Jesus rode on.** Sing "Just a Little Donkey" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 137).

Just a little donkey, very young was he;  
But the loving Jesus needed him you see.

Just a little donkey Jesus rode to town.  
Children sang, "Hosanna," casting palm leaves down.

—Nancy J. Stagl-Schippmann

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Say: **Everyone sang praise songs to Jesus as He rode on the donkey. We can sing praise songs as well.**

Sing the memory verse song again to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

### D. Make a Path

#### You Need:

- ☐ clothing items
- ☐ toy stuffed donkey (optional)

Say: **If a king or someone important comes to visit, some people roll out a special carpet for them to walk on.**

**People didn't have a special carpet for Jesus, but they took off their coats and put them on the road for Jesus to ride over. They also cut down palm leaves and put them on the road.**

**Can you help me make a special road like that? You can also help me sing while we do it.**

Give each child an item of clothing to put around their shoulders and then place on the floor. If you have a toy stuffed donkey, let the children take turns walking with the donkey down the road. Or you can let the children pretend to be a donkey and walk down the road. Sing "Hallelu, Hallelu" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 213).

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah!  
Praise ye the Lord!  
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah!  
Praise ye the Lord!  
Praise ye the Lord, hallelujah!  
Praise ye the Lord, hallelujah!  
Praise ye the Lord, hallelujah!  
Praise ye the Lord!

Say: **We can sing to God anytime, anywhere. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the memory verse song again to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

### E. Wave Palm Branches

Say: **The people shouted "Hosanna!" to Jesus. That means save. They wanted Jesus to be their king and save them. Can you say "Hosanna"?** Have the children repeat with you.

**Let's sing a praise song just as the people did when they saw Jesus. While we sing we can wave palm branches just as the people did when Jesus rode by.**

Distribute paper palm branches (see p. 75) and sing "Praise Him, Praise Him" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 221).

Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,  
He is love, He is love;  
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,  
He is love, He is love.

—Anonymous. Adapted by General Conference Sabbath School Department.

#### You Need:

- ☐ paper palm branches (see p. 75)

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Say: **Isn't it fun to praise Jesus? We can sing praises any time we want.** Sing the memory verse song again to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

## F. Clap, Sing, and Praise

Say: **If someone didn't have a palm leaf, they may have used their hands to praise Jesus. We can use our hands to show how happy we are when we sing. Can everyone clap their hands for me? That's good. Let's use our hands as we sing together.**

Clap hands while singing "I Have Hands That Clap" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 215).

I have hands that clap, clap, clap,  
I have hands that clap, clap, clap,  
I have hands that clap, clap, clap.  
They were made for Jesus.

—S. Vance

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## G. Praise the Creator

Say: **The people in Jerusalem were so happy to see Jesus being praised. But some angry men didn't like it. They told Jesus to make everyone hush! But the parade went on.**

**If the children didn't praise Jesus, the stones might cry out to praise Him! If people don't praise Jesus, the things Jesus made will do it.**

**Let's pretend we're stones and make ourselves little on the floor as we start singing and doing the motions together for our next song.** Sing "Praise Your God" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 224).

**Praise the God who made you.** *Stand up tall.*

**Shout with all your might.** *Cup hands around mouth.*

**Praise the One who changed the darkness into light.** *Cover eyes with hands and then uncover.*

**Join in celebration all of His creation and praise, praise, praise Him!** *Clap hands.*

**Praise, praise Him!**

**Praise, praise, praise your God.** *Clap hands.*  
—Janine Max

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Say: **Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

## H. My Best Friend

Say: **When Jesus saw the city of Jerusalem from a hill, He felt sad. He started to cry. Jesus loves the people who live in the city, but they don't all love Him.**

**We don't want to make Jesus sad. We want Jesus to know we love Him. We want to tell Jesus how happy we are to have Him as our best friend. Let's clap and sing about our best friend, Jesus.** Sing "My Best Friend Is Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 218).

My best friend is Jesus,  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
My best friend is Jesus,  
Praise Him!

—Mildred Adair Stagg

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**We like to sing praises to Jesus. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

## I. Praise Parade

### You Need:

- ☐ toy musical or rhythm instruments (optional)

**our voices and instruments. Let's make a praise parade for Jesus right now.**

Say: **The parade continued on, praising Jesus. It's fun to praise Jesus. We can praise Him in many different ways. We can praise Him with**

Distribute musical instruments, shakers, or pieces of wood that children can strike together. Shakers can be made from any plastic container by putting small stones or dried peas, beans, etc., inside. The sound will vary, depending on how much is inside the container. An option would be to do just the hand motions for the song. Let the children march around the room while singing "Making Music" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 220).

**Praise Him with the trumpet, Play it loud and clear,**

*Play imaginary trumpets.*

**Then the drums and cymbals, So ev'ryone can hear!**

*Play imaginary drums or cymbals.*

**We're making music for the Lord!**

*Clap on the beat for remainder of song.*

**We're making music for the Lord!**

*Clap on the beat for remainder of song.*

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Say: **Jesus loves it when we sing praises to Him. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

## J. Praise Him Anytime

### You Need:

- ☐ felt suns and moons
- ☐ spray bottle with water

Say: **Do you know that we can praise Jesus anytime? We can praise Him in the daytime or at nighttime. Jesus loves to hear and see us thanking Him.**

**Please bring up and place on the felt board the sun or moon while we sing.** Sing "Come Praise the Lord" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 211).

Day or night (day or night), we will praise the Lord.

Day or night (day or night), we will praise the Lord.

Day or night (day or night), we will praise the Lord.

All ye children, come praise the Lord!

Say: **We can also praise and thank Jesus whether it is raining or sunny. Let's continue singing while it's raining.** Spray each child's hand with a mist of water.

Rain or shine (rain or shine), we will praise the Lord.

Rain or shine (rain or shine), we will praise the Lord.

Rain or shine (rain or shine), we will praise the Lord.

All ye children, come praise the Lord!

Say: **Do you know that anyone can praise Jesus for loving them? Big people praise Jesus, and little people praise Jesus too. Let's sing one more verse together. Stand up when we sing "big" and sit down when we sing "small."**

Big or small (big or small), we will praise the Lord.

Big or small (big or small), we will praise the Lord.

Big or small (big or small), we will praise the Lord.

All ye children, come praise the Lord!

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Say: **We can praise Jesus anytime and anywhere by singing songs to Him. We can sing in Sabbath School, at church, and at home. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the following words to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

## K. We Praise Jesus— Discovery House

### You Need:

- ☐ (for each child) small house with small pictures glued in windows (see pp. 71, 72)
- ☐ scissors
- ☐ crayons or markers
- ☐ glue or glue sticks
- ☐ white or ivory card stock

In advance, make a copy of the house on page 71 for each child. Cut on the dotted lines to make window flaps. Select, color, cut out, and glue six small pictures (see pg. 72) to show through the window flaps.

Give each child a “discover” house. One at a time, invite the children to “open” a window of their house and tell what they see.

Allow response time as you ask:

**Do we want to praise Jesus for this? (yes) Let’s say**

**together: We praise You, Jesus, for \_\_\_\_\_.**

Repeat until all have had a turn.  
(Large class: form groups of five or six and have an adult guide the children.)

Say: **We can praise Jesus for all these things by singing our memory verse song again. Let’s sing it together now.**

Sing the following words to the tune of “Praise to Jesus” (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

## 5

**MAKE AND TAKE (Optional)**

Have the children sit around small tables. Parents or other adults should assist children to do one of the following as you review the lesson story.

**Week 1**  
**Praise Flag**
**You Need:**

- ☐ long drinking straws and paper or 18-inch wooden dowels and pieces of fabric
- ☐ glue sticks

Help the children make a praise flag. Either glue a square of paper about one third the length of a straw onto a straw, or glue fabric about one third the length of the wooden dowel rod onto it. Say: **I can wave my flag to praise Jesus. I can sing songs to praise Him.**

When the flags are finished, have the children wave them while singing the memory verse song to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little*

*Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
 Sing to the Lord!  
 We praise Him,  
 We praise Him,  
 We sing to Him!

**Week 2**  
**Megaphone**
**You Need:**

- ☐ sheet of lightweight card stock (file folder weight)
- ☐ cellophane tape
- ☐ crayons

Say: **The people shouted and sang to Jesus. To make our voices louder, we can use a megaphone.**

Decorate the sheet of card stock. Then roll it from a corner into a cone shape. Fasten it together with cellophane tape. When finished, have the children sing the memory verse song through their megaphones. Use the tune to "Praise to Jesus" (*Little*

*Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
 Sing to the Lord!  
 We praise Him,  
 We praise Him,  
 We sing to Him!

**Week 3**  
**Praise Shaker**
**You Need:**

- ☐ empty plastic containers with screw-on lids
- ☐ small pebbles or dried grains
- ☐ stickers or colored paper or pictures
- ☐ glue sticks

Have parents help the children partially fill a container with small stones or dried grains and screw the lid in place. Decorate the outside with stickers, pictures, or colored paper. When finished, have the children shake their praise shakers as they sing the memory verse song to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little*

Sing to the Lord!  
 Sing to the Lord!  
 We praise Him,  
 We praise Him,  
 We sing to Him!

**Week 4**  
**Palm Branches**

Beforehand, cut out the basic leaf patterns. (See page 75.) Distribute patterns, paper, and scissors.

Have the parents trace their child's hand five times and cut out the tracings. Glue two handprints on either side of the paper, and glue one print onto the stem of the palm leaf.

**You Need:**

- ☐ palm leaf pattern for each child (see p. 75)
- ☐ letter-size paper
- ☐ pencils
- ☐ glue
- ☐ scissors

When finished, have the children wave their palm leaves while they sing the memory verse song.

Sing the following words to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

measure the amount of elastic needed to hold the mask in place. Tie a knot in each end of the elastic and staple it to the mask so the knot will not slip through.

**Snack Center (optional)**

In keeping with the idea of a parade or party for Jesus, decorate an area with balloons and streamers. Serve dry cereal, trail mix, or other light snack, using paper leaves as plates. Sing a prayer of blessing over the snack before you eat.

Sing the memory verse song to the tune of "Praise to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 222).

**You Need:**

- ☐ balloons/streamers
- ☐ snack foods (dry cereal, etc.)
- ☐ paper leaves

**Week 5 (or optional activity)****Donkey Mask****You Need:**

- ☐ donkey pattern (see p. 76)
- ☐ lightweight cardboard for each child (the inside of a cereal box works well) or a paper plate
- ☐ gray crayons
- ☐ thin elastic
- ☐ stapler

Beforehand, trace the donkey pattern (see page 76) onto the cardboard or paper plate and cut it out. Add features and color if the card is not gray.

Hold the mask up to the child's face and

Sing to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord!  
We praise Him,  
We praise Him,  
We sing to Him!

**Bible Activities (optional)**

If there is still time, families may choose from a variety of activities that reinforce this month's Bible story. Those activities listed as Arrival Activities may be used again.

**Closing**

Say: **Today we learned that we can sing praises to Jesus.**

Say a short prayer similar to the following: **Dear Jesus, we love You so much and want to praise You. Thank You for hearing us when we sing praises to You. Amen.**

As the children prepare to leave the room, sing "Sabbath School Is Over" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 46).

Our Sabbath school is over,  
And we are going now.  
Goodbye, goodbye,  
Be always kind and true.  
Goodbye, goodbye,  
Be always kind and true.



STUDENT LESSON

# The Great Parade

## References

Luke 19:28-44;  
*The Desire of Ages*,  
 pp. 569-579.

*See the children march in the parade. The doggie marches too. Our Bible story is about a parade.*

## Memory Verse

"Sing to the  
 Lord" (Psalm  
 98:1, NIV).

## The Message

I can sing  
 praises to  
 Jesus.

See the donkey. (*Point to the donkey.*) Jesus will ride on the donkey. Jesus and the donkey will ride in a parade.

The boys and girls want to see Jesus. (*Point to the children.*) They want to see Jesus in a parade.

"See Jesus!" the children shout. (*Point to Jesus.*)

"Jesus looks like a king!" Jesus sits straight and tall on the little donkey.

"He could be our king," the adults whisper.

(*Give child a cloth to wave or spoons to clap.*) Yea for King Jesus! And for the donkey and the parade!

"Hosanna! Son of King David!"

Hear the people shout! (*Point to Jesus, then the people.*) See the children wave. (*Wave a cloth or scarf.*)

The little donkey walks. (*Point to the donkey.*) Clip-clop-clip.

The people take off their coats. (*Point to the coats.*) The coats cover the road. Clip-clop-clip. The donkey walks on the coats.

What a parade! (*Wave and clap.*)

See the palm branches. (*Give child green leaves to wave.*) The children wave palms. "Hosanna!" they shout. "Hosanna to our King!"

The parade is coming closer. Clip-clop-clip. Jesus is our King. We can wave palms too. [*Wave green leaves.*] We can sing praises to Jesus.

See the angry men. (*Point to the*

*Pharisees.*) Count them: 1-2-3. Three angry men say, "Hush the children!"

But the parade goes on.

"Don't stop the children or the stones might cry out!" Jesus says.

Clip-clop-clip, the donkey steps on the pretty coats. Yea! (*Wave the cloth.*)



"Sh! Jesus, don't cry." See the big tears on Jesus' face. (*Point to Jesus.*) Jesus is sad.

(*Softly in a sad voice.*) "Oh, great city! Jesus loves your people! Jesus loves your children—all the time! But you do not love Him." (*Use the cloth to dab at your eyes.*) Don't cry, Jesus.

"We love You, Jesus!"

See, Jesus smiles. (*Point to Jesus' smiling face.*)

Clip-clop-clip. The parade moves again. The donkey steps on the pretty coats. The children shout "Hosanna!" (*Shout.*) The palms wave! (*Wave green leaves.*)

What a parade!



# Do & Say

**1.** Tape record your child's attempt at saying "Praise Him" or singing praises to Jesus. Play it back and listen.

**2.** Partially fill a toilet paper roll with rice, beans, lentils, or gravel. Seal each end with waxed paper or other material. Let your child shake the instrument as you sing a praise song to Jesus.

**3.** Let your child wave a scarf or strip of cloth while you sing praises to Jesus together.

**4.** Take a walk around your neighborhood and praise Jesus for the things you see. Sing the memory verse song as you walk.

**5.** Use your quiet voice to whisper praises into your child's ear. Encourage your child to whisper them to you.

**6.** Go outside and use your loud voices to shout praises to Jesus. Teach your child to shout "Hosanna!"

**7.** Help your child think of three things for which to praise Jesus. Count them on their fingers. Take turns with your child jumping up as you list the items.

**8.** Sing "Praise Him, Praise Him" as you praise Jesus today. Use your hands to clap and praise Jesus as you sing.

**9.** Make some different animal sounds while your child guesses what animal it is. Finish with a donkey sound. Remind your child that Jesus rode on a donkey.

**10.** Have a parade. March around your house as you sing praises to Jesus.

**11.** Hide some objects around your home. Have a treasure hunt and praise Jesus for each object your child discovers.

**12.** If possible, take your child to a petting zoo or farm. Ask the caretaker

to let your child touch a donkey.

**13.** Gather some leaves or make some with paper. Wave them in praise to Jesus as you sing the memory verse song.

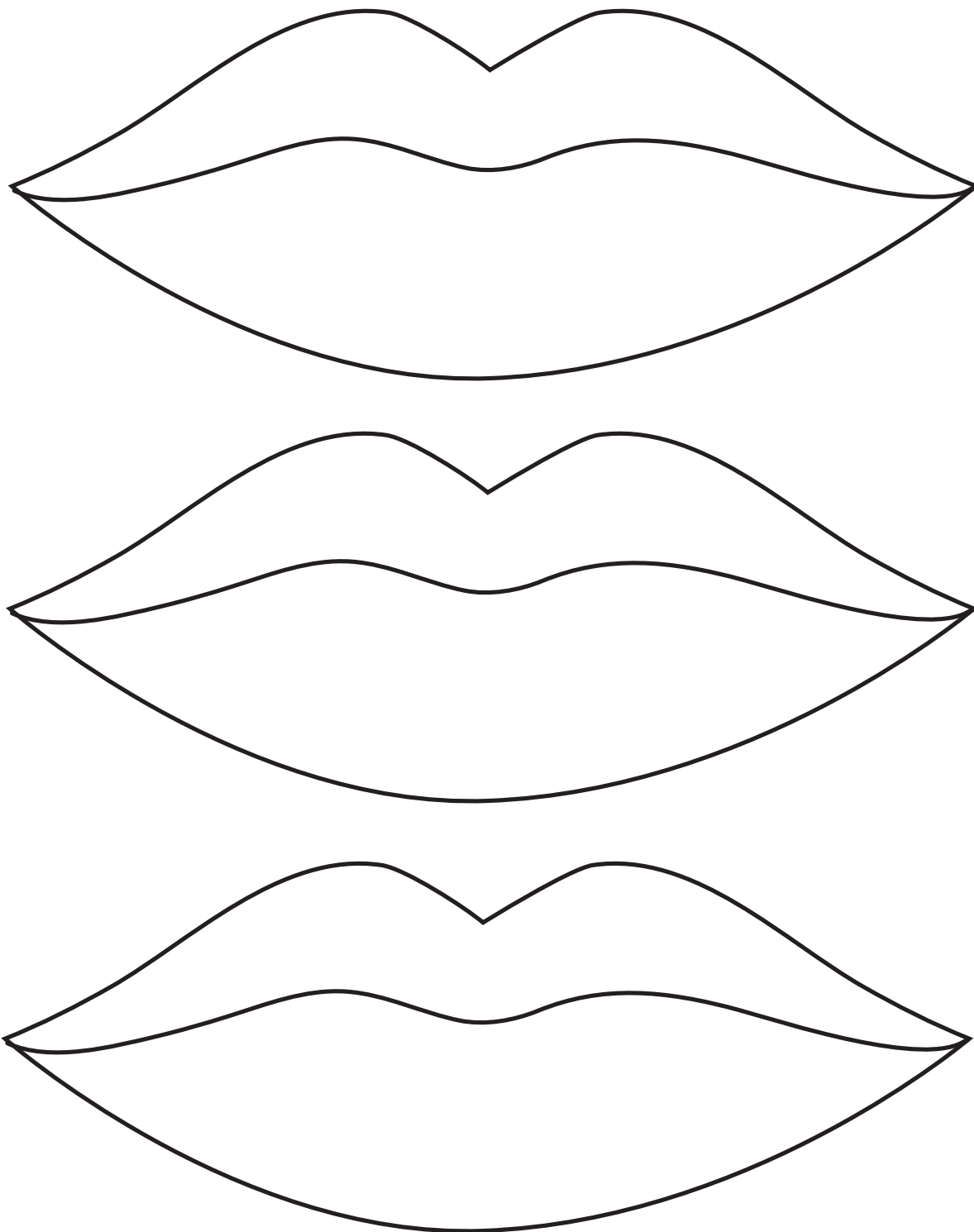
**14.** Hide a picture of a donkey or a toy stuffed donkey. Help your child find the donkey as Jesus' disciples did.

**15.** Play a note on a piano, guitar, or other instrument. Explain that we use musical notes to sing praises to Jesus.

Study these suggestions for something to do each day. Select those that are appropriate for your child's developmental stage and repeat them often.

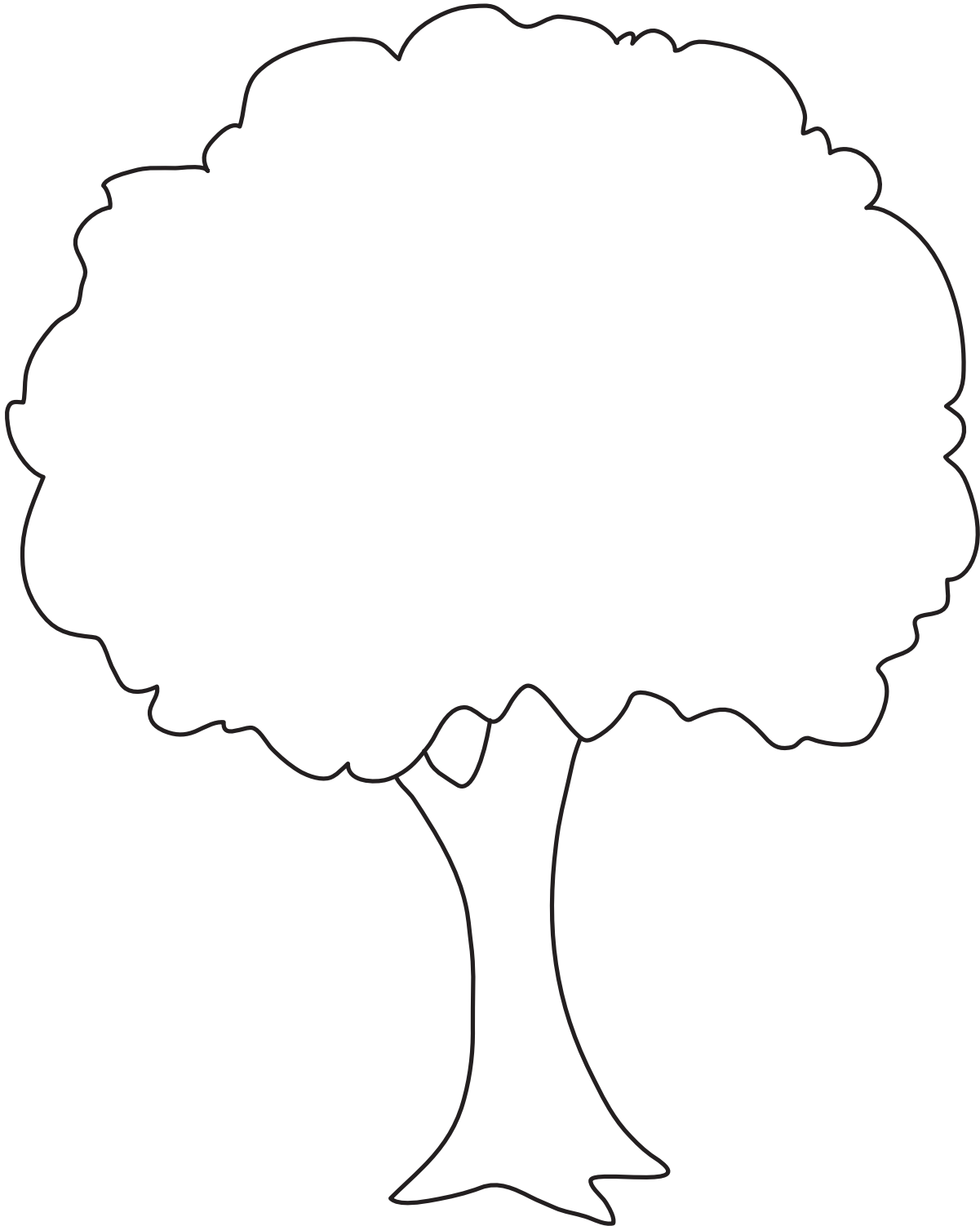
**Kind Lips**

**Lesson 1 – Experiencing the Story; Make and Take, Week 3**



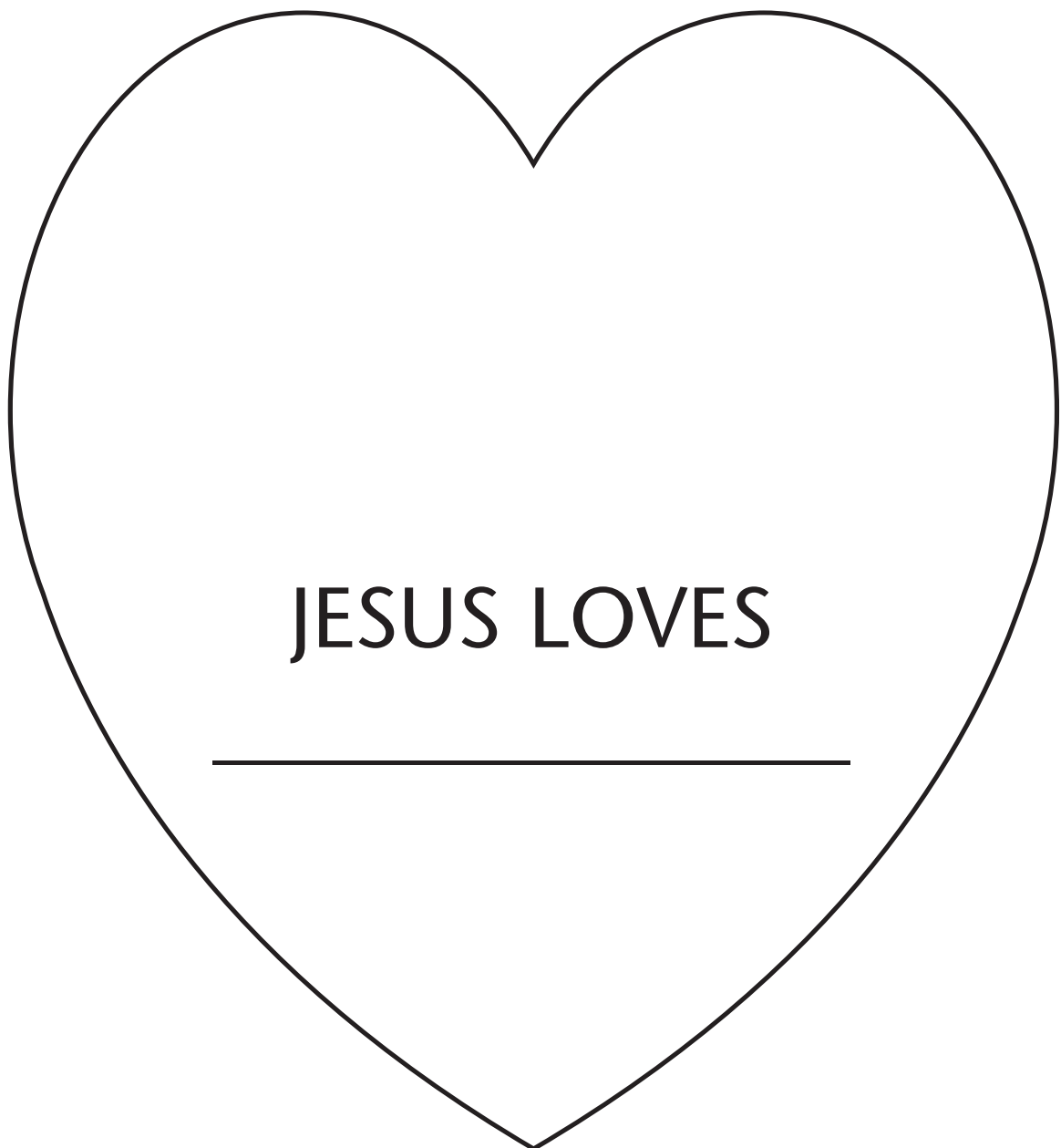
**Large Coins****Lesson 2 – Experiencing the Story; Make and Take, Week 4**

**Make and Take: Tree**  
**Lesson 2 – Week 1**



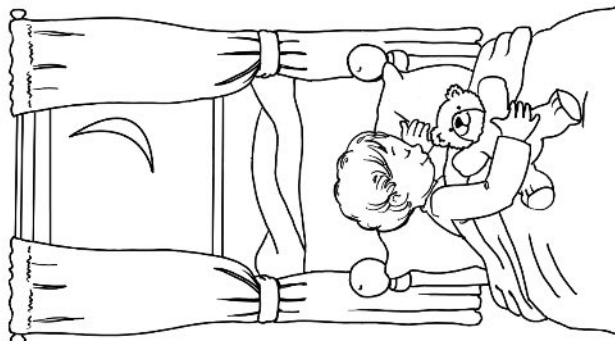
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**Make and Take: Jesus Loves You**  
**Lesson 2 – Week 2**



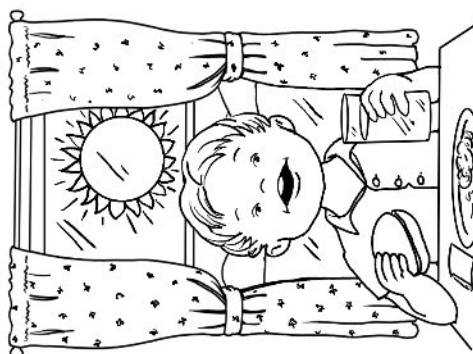
**Make and Take: Jesus Loves Me**  
**Lesson 2 - Week 5**

**Night**



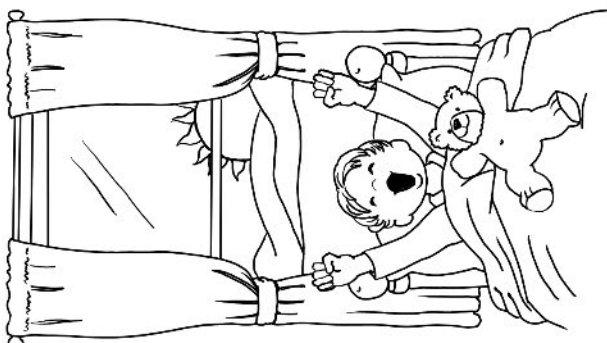
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**Afternoon**

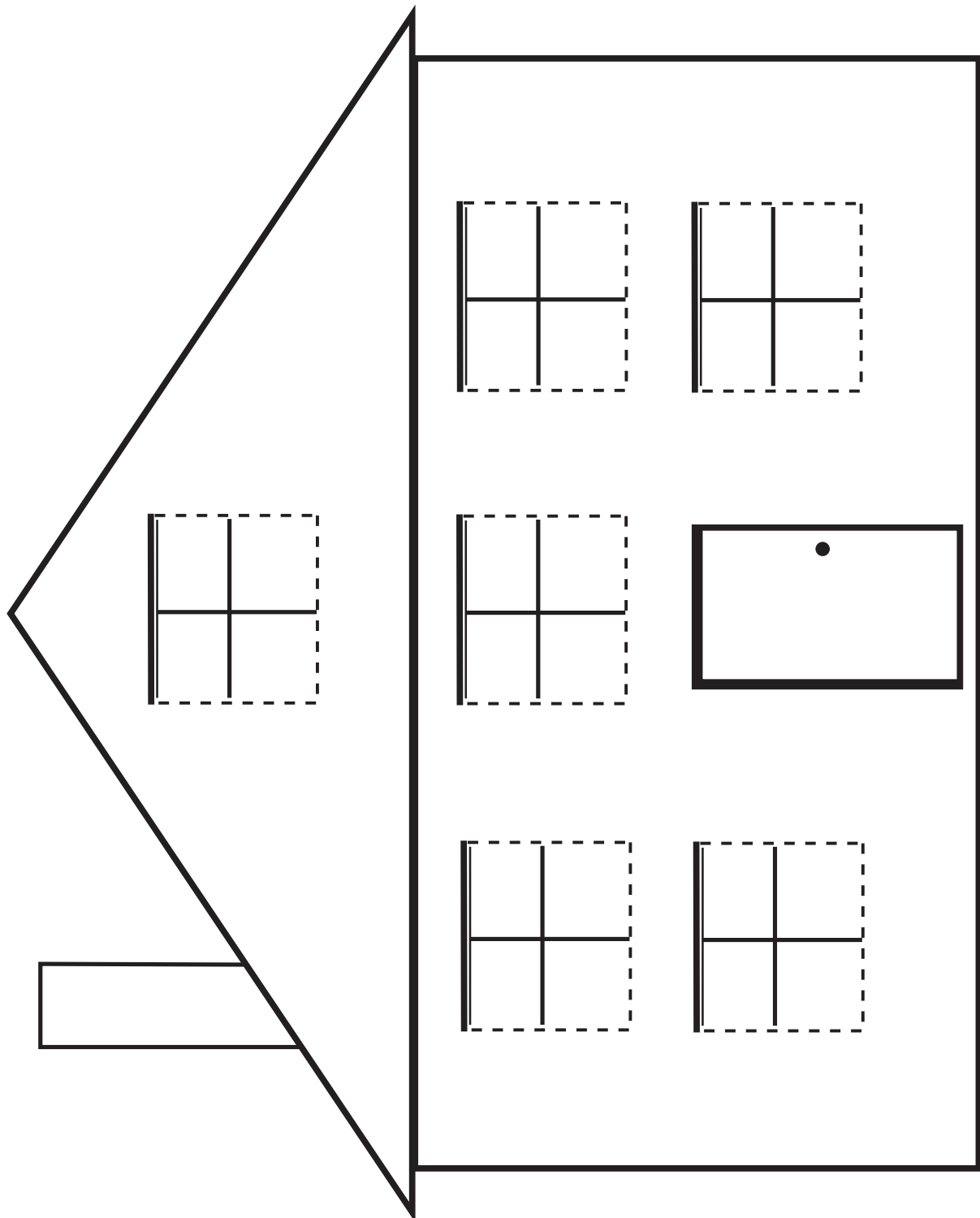


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**Morning**

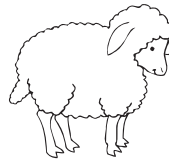


**Arrival Activities: Discovery House—1**  
**Enlarge this for use with Activity H on p. 53. Use as is for Activity K on p. 61.**



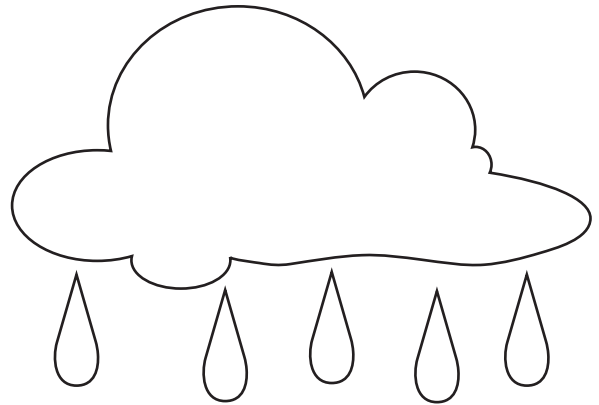
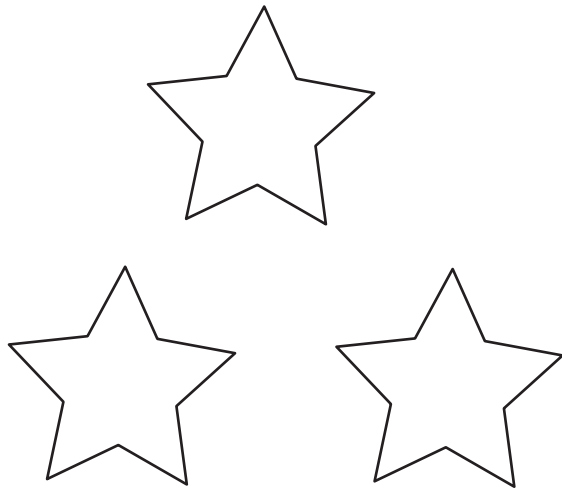
## Arrival Activities: Discovery House—1

Things to praise Jesus for; to be used with small house on page 71.



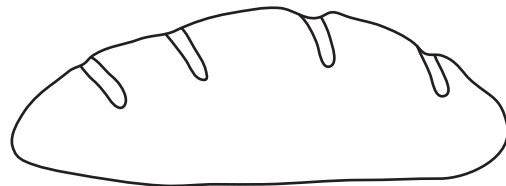
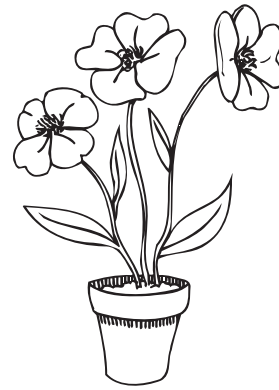
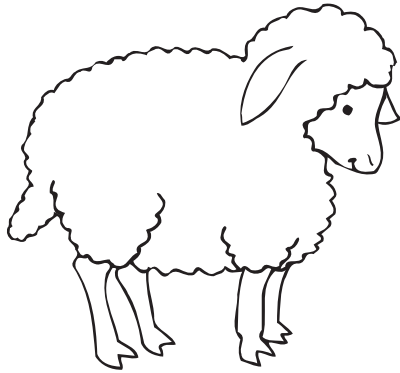


**Arrival Activities: Discovery House—2**  
**Things to praise Jesus for; to be used with larger house. (See page 53.)**

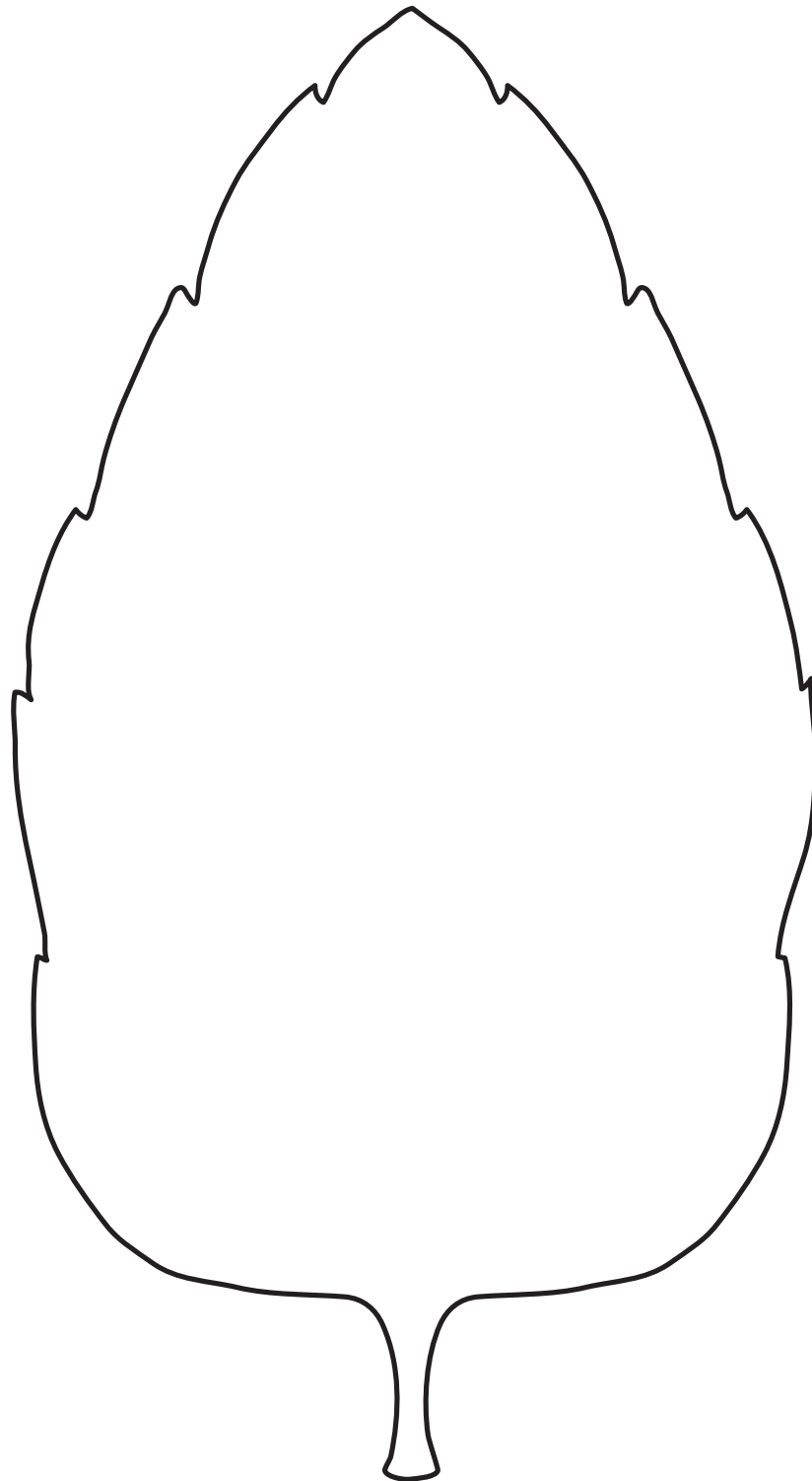


**Arrival Activities: Discovery House-2**

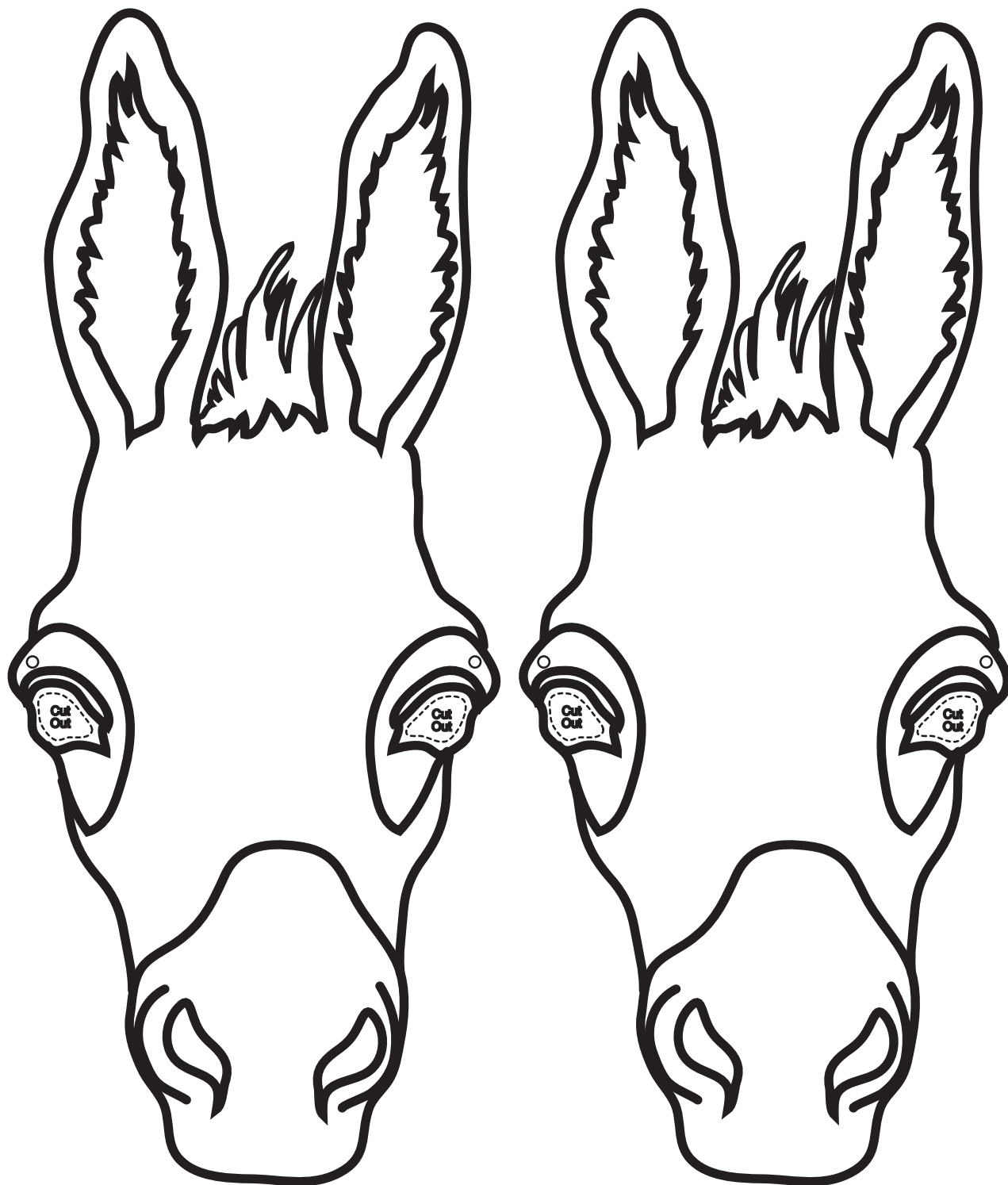
**Things to praise Jesus for; to be used with larger house. (See page 53.)**



**Palm Branches**  
**Lesson 3 - Experiencing the Story; Make and Take, Week 4**

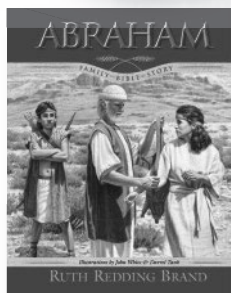


**Make and Take: Donkey Mask**  
Lesson 3 - Week 5

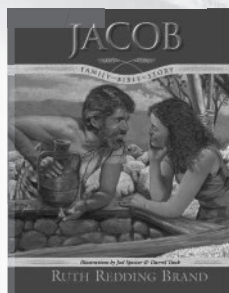




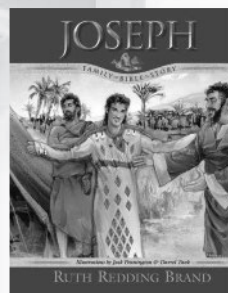
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What enormous price did a Bible character pay for soup?



What was Jacob's wedding night surprise?



What woman turned into a statue of salt?

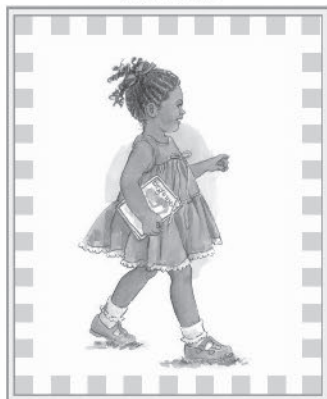
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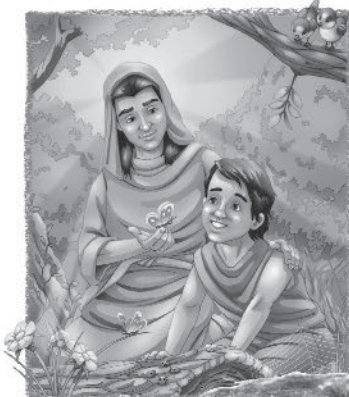
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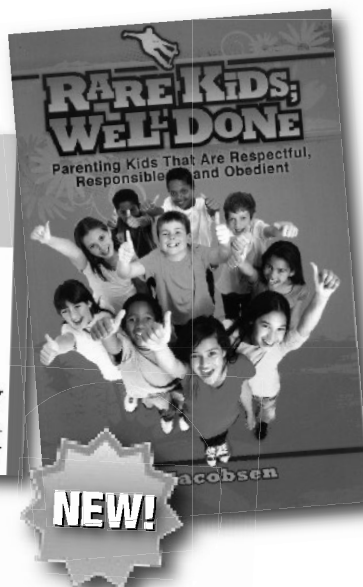
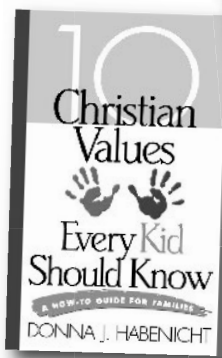


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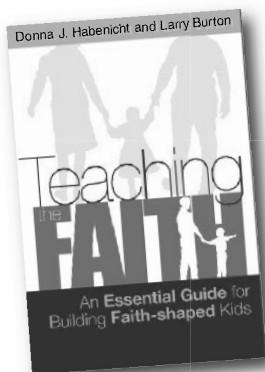


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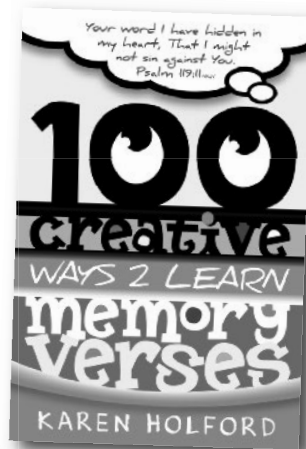
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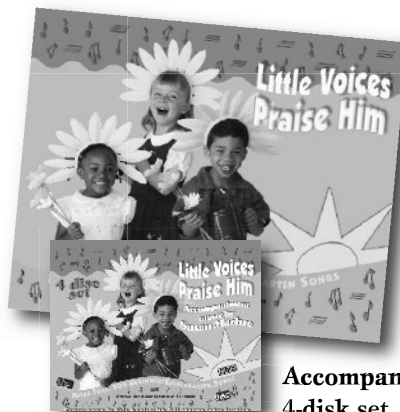
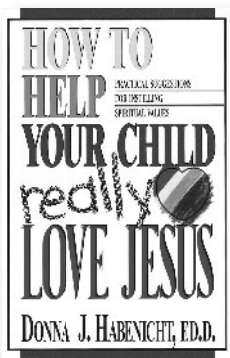
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