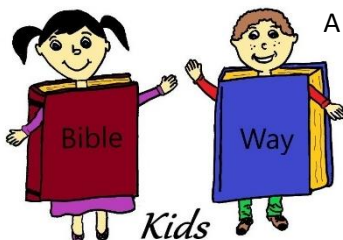




Bible Detectives



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Bible Detectives

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Bible Detectives

In Bible Detectives we will be solving cases in the Bible. Lots of exciting things will be happening. Get out your magnifying glasses and have some fun.

The children will be earning Bible Bucks each week to spend in the Detective Store at the end of the session. (If you choose you can have the store monthly). You should make an area for them to store their bucks.

Each week the children will receive a clue card to take home and work on. It will contain their memory verse for the next week and a clue about what the next story is. When the children come to church the following week, they will earn Bible Bucks for saying their memory verse and solving the clue for the next story. You can also give Bible Bucks for attendance and bringing Bibles, or whatever you choose. The Bible Bucks will stay at the Sunday School until the last session.

The clue cards will be laminated and put on a key ring every week when the children return with them. Our suggestion is to send single clue cards home and keep the key rings at the church. The children should bring their clue card back with the answer to the case written on it. That way you can add the clue cards each week to the rings and the children will have a complete set at the end of the series.

The décor will be a detective agency. Set up chairs as in a waiting area, advertisements on the wall for the detective service, a desk for check in, spy equipment lying around.

The costumes will be simple detective hats-ball caps with two bills, and simple detective capes. Magnifying glasses for everyone to carry

Happy sleuthing!!



Bible Detectives

Lesson One: The Case of Ten Wrong and Two Right

The Spies in Canaan

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Small magnifying glasses-one per child

Pre-session: Clothespins (the kind that have a spring) one per child, pipe cleaners, google eyes, small green wire, green marker or crayon

Craft: Empty water bottles with lids-one per child, rice, small objects that fit in bottles, masking tape or glue, paper, pencils, scotch tape

Memory Verse- Dry erase or chalk board, make large magnifying glasses on card stock, pencils

Clue cards for the following week

Bible Detectives

Lesson One: The Case of Ten Wrong, Two Right

The Twelve Spies in Caanan

Scripture Text: Numbers 13

Memory Verse: Psalms 112:7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.



Welcome: Welcome each child today to Bible Detectives, give each child a small magnifying glass.



Pre-session: Give each child a clothespin, green marker or crayon, green pipe cleaners, google eyes and small green wire. Show the children how to turn their art materials into a grasshopper. Grasshoppers are not very big, but they can cause a lot of damage to fields and crops. (**Clue: Ten men said they were like grasshoppers**) Show the children the clue card that we will receive at the end of session today. Tell them to search their Bible to solve the clue for next week. Bring back the card next week with the answer to the clue and learn their memory verse each week to earn Bible Bucks. They will be spent in a store at the end of the session. (Pre-session will take up the time before the session begins and the first ten minutes after starting so that all children have an opportunity to do the activity. For Bible Detectives the pre-session will be doing activities that will give them clues to solving the story for that day.)



Prayer: Pray for each of the children today, we want each one of them to realize the power that they can have in their lives when they receive the Holy Ghost. We are nothing without Him.



Offering: Let the children place their offering in the offering container. Commend each one on bringing an offering. For those who can't let them know

you will be letting them have an opportunity to give too. (Occasionally bring a few extra coins for those children who don't have an offering-we are trying to teach the concept to all the children of loving to give).



Songs: Our God is So Great, So Strong and So Mighty, My God Can Do Anything, Have Faith in God



Craft: The children will be making I spy bottles. Give each child an empty water bottle a cup of rice and several small objects that will fit in the neck of the bottle. The children will put rice and objects in the bottle in any order they want. Place the lid on the bottle and tape with masking tape or glue the lid on. The children can write down what objects they put in the bottles and tape or glue it onto the bottle. They can then share their bottles with each other and have fun finding the objects as they shake the rice around in the bottle. **(Clue: There were spies in the story today)**



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on dry erase or chalk board. Hand out the magnifying glasses on card stock and let the children write the memory verse on the magnifying glass. Let them use the little magnifying glasses given them at welcome to take turns reading the verse out loud.



Lesson: Were you able to figure out what our story is going to be about today? You have to remember the clues you hear as we do our activities.

God has always had a people that He called his own. They were the Israelites. The Israelites were under the oppression of a wicked Pharaoh in the land of Egypt. One night God delivered them by the hand of a man named Moses. God led them into a desert and promised them he would lead them into a land flowing with milk and honey named Canaan. God told Moses to send men to spy out the land of Canaan. He told them to send a man from each of their tribes. Twelve men were sent. They were to find out about the land and the people in the land. Moses said to find out if the people were strong or weak. Did they live in cities or in tents? He

wanted to know what the fruit of the land looked like and he asked them to bring back some of the fruit that was ripe. The men went into the land and found that it was a really good land. Just like God had promised, it flowed with milk and honey. The grapes were so big that it took two men to carry a cluster of them on a pole between them. But, the people there were very big and tall and ten of the spies were afraid of them.

They were gone for 40 days. When they returned to their own camp, they showed Moses the good fruit that they had found in the land. Ten of the men began to tell Moses about the giants and how fearful they were. They told of the large cities with high walls around them. “We cannot go into this land”, they said. “We were just like grasshoppers in our own sight and also in the sight of the people there.”

Two of the spies, Caleb and Joshua said, “Let us go up at once and take possession for we are able to overcome it.” The people were all scared to do that. They believed the report of the ten fearful spies instead of the two brave ones. Because of this, God made them to wander in the wilderness for forty years. Of the twelve spies, only Caleb and Joshua were allowed to go into the land of Canaan. How sad that the people believed the bad report. If they had trusted what God had told them like Caleb and Joshua and been brave they would have lived in a beautiful land that God was giving them. Instead they just wandered in the desert.

We can learn two things from the spies. Our actions can influence others for good or bad. The people should have believed the two spies, but instead believed the ten. The majority is not always right. Just because “everyone” is doing something does not make it right. The second lesson is that God will always make his promises good. He promised the people the land and said that it was good. They should have believed God and the two spies instead of the ten with the bad report.

We need to always remember to trust God and to let our actions be good ones that others will see and want to be like. Let’s pray and ask God to help us to learn to trust Him and believe in His word.



Extended Time Game and Activity: Play a game of I Spy.

Give out clue cards with memory verse and clue for next week’s story.



Bible Detectives

Lesson Two: The Case of The Missing Brother

Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: Construction paper, art materials, contact paper, key rings-one per child

Offering: Basket of fake fruit or vegetables

Craft: Cotton balls, card stock, sharpies, crayons

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, chalk board, make several different vegetables and fruits from construction paper and cut out, write words or phrases of the memory verse on them

Lesson: Dry Erase or Chalk board

Extended Time Game or Activity: Recipe card, clear bowl, pennies, vinegar, salt, paper towels

Bible Bucks to give to those that learned memory verse and/or figured out what the story was prior to class

Clue Cards to all children for next week's story and memory verse

Bible Detectives

Lesson Two: The Case of the Missing Brother

Scripture Text: Genesis 4

Memory Verse: James 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.



Welcome: Greet each child with a warm smile and let them know you're glad they're here today.



Pre-session: Let the children use art materials to make vegetable/fruit baskets. The children can cut out their own basket and then cut out the vegetables and fruit to place in the basket. (**Clue: This man brought an offering of the field**) Let the children put contact paper on their clue card and place it on the key ring. Keep the key rings at the Sunday School to take home at the last session.



Prayer: Pray with the children encouraging them to reach out to God this morning. We want prayer to become a habit for the children, but we also want it to have meaning for them. We want to teach that God does answer prayer.



Offering: Let the children place their offering in a basket of fake vegetables/fruit



Songs: Praise Him, Praise Him, Bless that Wonderful Name, I've Got a Feeling



Craft: Give each child several cotton balls and a sheet of card stock. The children can glue the cotton balls on the cardstock and add eyes and ears and legs with a sharpie to make sheep. They can then color on grass, sky and other items to make a flock of sheep in a field of grass (**Clue Two: One brother was a keeper of sheep**)



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase or chalk board. Place the sheep and vegetable memory verse cards on the table and let the children sort through them to put together the memory verse. (You could make several sets and let the children work as teams or they can work together as a group) Read the memory verse aloud several times with the children and if time allows let them read it individually.



Lesson: Have any of you figured out what our case is about today using the clues you've had so far? (give time for answers)

Remember when you leave today you will get a clue card for next week. It will have your memory verse and a clue about the story next week. Try to figure it out and you'll earn Bible Bucks to use in the store at the end.

Today we are going to have a Bible story that has a mystery in it. Let's look at the mystery board and write down what we know. (Dry erase board will have title of the story) We know from the title that there were two brothers and you worked on sheep and fruits and vegetables. Sounds like some strange clues.

In the book of Genesis, the first book of the Bible, we know that Adam and Eve were sent out of the Garden because they sinned against God. After they were sent out God blessed Adam and Eve with two beautiful sons. The first son was named Abel and the second son was named Cain. Both of these young men were taught the principles of God from the time they were little. Their parents wanted to make sure their sons pleased God.

In those times God required that the people make sacrifices to Him. The sacrifice that God required for sin was a blood sacrifice. An animal must die for their sins. Adam and Eve taught this to their sons.

The two brothers grew up into young men and the time came for them to make their own sacrifices and not just depend on Dad and Mom to do it for them. Abel was a herdsman and Cain was a tiller of the field (kind of like a farmer). When the two brothers brought their sacrifice to God, Cain brought fruits of the soil and Abel brought a blood sacrifice. (See the vegetable and sheep clues?)

God was pleased with Abel's sacrifice. He had brought a blood sacrifice, just like he had been taught. God was not pleased with Cain's sacrifice. Maybe Cain

thought it was just easier to bring the fruit of the soil than to go out and kill an animal. We really don't know his reasoning, but it was not right. When Cain saw that God was not pleased he became very angry and pouted. God told him if he would do right he would be accepted, but God also told him something pretty scary. If he would not do right, God told him that sin was lying at his door. Cain pouted and pouted and got madder and madder about the situation. The more he thought on it, the madder he got. One day he asked his brother Abel to come to a field and meet with him. Abel loved his brother and was happy to meet him. When he got to the field Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. How awful!

When God came to Cain he asked him where his brother was. Instead of admitting what he had done Cain said, "Am I my brother's keeper?" The Lord already knew what he had done, he said to Cain, "Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground".

God put a curse on Cain that day. He told him the ground would no longer bring forth crops for him. He would be a wanderer. God drove him away from His presence. He probably never felt or talked to God again. He was an outcast for the rest of his life.

What a terrible thing to happen to Cain, when all he had to do was be obedient and do things the God and his parents had taught him. He thought his way was better or he was just too lazy to do it God's way. Do any of you ever do that? Maybe you don't really think it's that bad to stay up late at night and then when it's time to pray in the morning you are so tired that you don't really pray the way you should. Or maybe you decide to play a video game first instead of reading your Bible, and then its bed time and your Bible never got touched. Any of these things can lead us away from God if we don't put him first in our lives. We don't want to be like Cain and be led into more sin because we don't listen to God or our pastor and parents. Let's pray and ask God to help us be obedient to Him. If you haven't repented and been baptized in Jesus Name and received the Holy Ghost you need to. Lead the children in prayer.



Extended Time Game or Activity:

Pull out the recipe card with recipe for cleaning pennies and say: I found this neat recipe for cleaning pennies. I always like nice shiny pennies. These are going to look great. Okay, it says to put my pennies in the bowl and put vinegar in the bowl with them. It also says to add salt to the vinegar. I don't think it really needs the salt, I'd rather just use the vinegar, then my pennies won't be all yucky feeling.

(Swipe the pennies with the vinegar and act disappointed that they aren't very shiny.) I wonder why they aren't very shiny. I like my pennies shiny. I wonder what else I can do to make them shiny? (Wait for the children's responses. They will probably tell you to add the salt.) Talk about how you don't want to follow the directions, don't like the feel of the salt, etc... Eventually give in and add the salt. (After a few minutes swab the pennies again and show the children the difference.) Talk to them about how your following the recipe was the same as being obedient. When you don't do things the way you are instructed to they won't work. We need to be obedient to God, our pastor, our parents. Give each child a shiny penny to remember the lesson.

Bible Bucks: Give Bible Bucks to the children that have researched the clue card given last week and had the right answer about who the story was about. Give Bible Bucks to those who knew their memory verse. Let the children put their bucks in their holders. Give out new clue cards with memory verse for next week.



Bible Detectives
Lesson Three: The Case of the Night Fright
Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dream
Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: Copies of ear of corn outline -one per child, popcorn, glue, key rings, contact paper for clue cards, extra clue cards for those that forget them

Offering-Plastic cows or pictures of cows

Craft: Cupcakes, white frosting, plastic knives, junior mints, pink candy wafers, mini brown M&M's, white jelly beans, black tube icing

Memory Verse: Dry erase or chalk board, stuffed cow, music

Extended Time Game or Activity: Several lemons, sugar, water, pitcher, spoon, lemon drops

Bible Bucks for those that said memory verse before class and/or knew what the story was about

Clue Cards for next week's lesson and memory verse

Bible Detectives

Lesson Three: The Case of the Night Fright

Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dream

Scripture Text: Genesis 41

Memory Verse: Hebrews 13:6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.



Welcome: Welcome each child to the class today.



Pre-session: Give the children the corn sheet outline and let them glue popcorn onto the ears. (**Clue: Corn was in a dream**) Let the children make guesses as they work about what the story is today. Let the children put their clue cards on the key rings to save for the last session.



Prayer: Pray with the children today asking God to help them learn about Him today.



Offering: Have a grouping of plastic cows or pictures of cows and let the children place their offering among the cows. (**Clue: Cows were in a dream**)



Songs: A Little Talk With Jesus, Deep and Wide, It's Bubbling



Craft: Let the children make cupcake cows with the materials that are provided. What you Need: cupcakes, white frosting, 2 Junior Mints, 1 pink candy wafer, 2 mini brown M&M's, 2 white jelly beans, black icing



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on the dry erase or chalk board. Let the children sit in a circle. Give the first child a stuffed cow. When the music starts the children pass the cow around the circle. When the music stops the child with the cow stands and reads the memory verse. Continue play until all children have had a turn. If time allows read the verse together several times.



Lesson: Did any of you figure out the Bible story for today? You had several clues. The story today has something to do with each of them. There was a king named Pharaoh. He ruled in Egypt. One night he had a very strange dream. In fact, he had two strange dreams and they really frightened him. They scared him because they were so real and he could not figure out what they meant. Have you ever had a dream like that? It would sure be nice if you could call a friend or someone you know to tell you exactly what your dream meant wouldn't it.

That's what Pharaoh did. He called all the wise men in his country to come and tell him the meaning of his dream. The problem was none of them could help him. Then one of his men told him about someone that could interpret dreams. His name was Joseph and he was in prison at that very time.

Joseph was not in prison because he was a bad man. He had been put there because he had been falsely accused. Someone had lied about him and he was placed in an ugly dungeon. When he was in prison he had interpreted the dreams

of Pharaoh's baker and his butler. Both of the dreams came true! Joseph's ability to interpret dreams was not of himself but was of God for Joseph was a very dedicated young man. He loved God.

Joseph was sent from the prison to go to Pharaoh's palace. When he got there Pharaoh asked him if he could interpret his dreams. Joseph told him he could not, but that God could.

The first dream was about two groups of cows. Remember the cow clue?? The first group of seven cows were very fat and the other group of seven cows were very skinny. In Pharaoh's dream, the skinny cows came and ate up the fat cows, but they still looked skinny. In the second part of the dream seven ears of corn came up on a cornstalk fat and beautiful and beside them sprang up seven ears of corn that were very ugly and skinny. The seven skinny ears ate up the fat ears, but did not look any different. There was the corn clue.

Joseph told Pharaoh that the dreams had the same meaning. There were going to be seven years of feast and seven years of famine. Joseph told Pharaoh that he should find someone to direct the people to store up goods for the famine years. Everything in the kingdom should be stored up during the lean years.

Pharaoh was so impressed with Joseph that he made him second in command and Joseph was chosen to be the commander in the land to store up the goods.

God blessed Joseph because even though bad things happened in his life he decided to trust God and live for him. He was faithful to God even in the prison.

When bad things happen to you, you should always trust that God is taking care of you.

What is the best thing to do when you have a problem? Let children answer and then talk about the right answer. That's right we should pray. God will always help us when we pray. Just like when we go to our parents or our pastor with a problem, they don't tell us to leave them alone. They are willing to listen to us and help us. Do any of you have a problem or a need that you need God to help you with? God wants to help you. Let's pray right now and ask God to take care of your need.



Extended Time Game or Activity: Lemons into Lemonade

Materials Needed: Several Lemons, sugar, water, pitcher, spoon

(Only have lemons on the table when beginning)

Ask one of the children to come up and taste the lemonade that you are making. Cut the lemon in half and tell them to try the delicious lemonade. The child will probably balk and not want to. Tell the children: Trying to make lemonade with just a lemon is like trying to work out our problems without prayer and asking God to help us.

Squeeze out the lemons over the pitcher. When I add water and sugar to the lemons, what do I get? Ask the same child to taste the lemonade. This time they will be much more willing to try it. When I added the sugar and the water, that's like when I add God to my problems in prayer. He takes care of everything and my problems work out to his glory and I don't have to worry about them. Joseph in our lesson was faithful to God in the prison and God blessed him and turned the bad things around in his life and used them for good. Just like the lemon, we don't always like everything that happens in our lives, sometimes they seem very sour. But, when we have God added to the mix of our lives everything becomes sweeter.

(Give each child a lemon drop at the end of the object lesson)

Bible Bucks: Give Bible Bucks to the children that have researched the clue card given last week and had the right answer about who the story was about. Give Bible Bucks to those who knew their memory verse. Let the children put their bucks in their holders. Give out new clue cards with memory verse for next week.



Bible Detectives

Lesson Four: The Case of the Leftie-Ehud

Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: White paper, pencils, contact paper, key rings, extra clue cards

Craft: Swords cut out of cardboard-one per child, aluminum foil, jewels

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, white construction paper, pencils, sharpies, tape

Lesson: Cape, sword

Extended Game or Activity: See lesson

Bible Bucks for those that learned memory verse before class and/or knew what the story was.

Clue Cards for all children with next week's memory verse and clue for next week's lesson.

Bible Detectives

Lesson Four: The Case of the Leftie-Ehud

Scripture Text: Judges 3

Memory Verse: I Corinthians 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things that are mighty.



Welcome: Welcome each child with a smile. Ask each child if they learned who the story is about today by studying the clue card given last week.



Pre-session: Give each child a sheet of paper and ask them to write their names and phone number using the hand they don't normally use. (For younger children have them draw a picture with the hand they don't normally use). Below what they have written or drawn have them do the same thing with the other hand. Remark on the differences they see. **(Clue: Left handed man)** Help the children put their clue card on their key ring to take home during the last session.



Prayer: Lead the children in a simple prayer for God to have his way today. Allow the children to lift their hands and worship.



Offering: Let the children place their offering in the offering container.



Songs: Our God is So Great, So Strong and So Mighty, He's Got the Whole World in His Hands, His Banner over Me is Love



Craft: Give each child a sword that has already been cut out of cardstock or cardboard. They are to cover the sword with aluminum foil and put jewels on the handle. **(Clue: The man used a sword)**



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Let each of the children draw around their left hands and cut them out and give them to the teacher. With a sharpie the teacher will write the memory verse in phrases on individual hands. Tape the hands up on the wall and let the children as a group read the memory verse. Turn one hand backwards and read again. Keep turning a hand over each time the children read the verse until all hands are turned over. Let them have a chance to say the verse individually.



Lesson: Ehud-The Left-handed Super Hero

(One teacher will narrate the story, second teacher dressed with cape as super-hero will enter and help to tell the story). Have you figured out what the story is about today using the clues you received? This one was pretty hard. It's not a story we hear a lot, but it sure is interesting.

God was very unhappy with the Israelites because they kept doing wrong things even though he told them not to. They were sinning. Imagine how your parents would feel if you kept doing bad things when they told you not to. They wouldn't be happy either.

Well, God was very upset, so he punished them by allowing the King of Moab to have power over them, they were his slaves. They had to do whatever he commanded them to do. He ordered them around and he now owned everything they had. To make matters worse, this king was not nice at all; he even teamed up with two other kingdoms and overpowered the Israelites.

The king made the Israelites his slaves for 18 years. They were very sad and cried out to God to help them. Do you think God ignored their cries? No, he didn't. Instead he sent someone to help them. He sent them their very own super-hero.

(Teacher enters dressed as super-hero with cape and a sword).

Ehud: Never fear, Ehud is here. God has sent me to deliver his people. They have prayed and God has answered. God will deliver his people by this mighty sword. (Swing the sword around making sure it is in the left hand while going around the room and then exit).

This super-hero was named Ehud; he was from one of the tribes of Israel called Benjamin. Can you guess what was special about him? Think about how he swung his sword. He was left-handed. Now this was very surprising given the fact that the name of Ehud's tribe meant "son of my right hand."

We would let Ehud come back in and show you how he delivered God's people, but we better just tell you about it, it was very gory and we don't want anyone to have bad dreams tonight. Anyway.....

The way this all worked out was pretty tricky.... The Israelites were due to pay their taxes and they sent Ehud to give the money to the king.

If you noticed when our super-hero came in he had made a double-edged sword. This means it was sharp on both sides. This sword was about as long as your mom's arm and he strapped it onto his right thigh under his clothes. This was very clever, because the king's soldiers were right-handed and would have drawn their swords from the left. When they checked Ehud for a weapon they looked on the left side, not his right.

After Ehud presented the taxes to the king, who was a very fat man, he told the king that he had a secret message for him. The king announced that everyone should be sent away except Ehud.

While the king was sitting alone, Ehud came up behind him and said, "I have a message from God for you." When he heard this, the king started to rise from his seat and at that point Ehud reached with his left hand and took his sword and plunged it into the king's belly. (Loud noises should be made outside the doors of the room). The sword went in with such force that even the handle went in, but the king was so big that the fat covered it.

Ehud had already locked the front doors of the throne room; he went out the back way, locked it and walked away. (The teacher super-hero can come in and pantomime the actions and show the victory sign as he exits). After he had gone the king's servants found the doors locked but thought the king (whisper) might be going to the bathroom, so they waited. After a long time, when it started getting embarrassing waiting for the king to come out, they used the key and to their surprise the king was done.

Back to Ehud-Ehud escaped and went back to the Israelites. One arrival he blew the trumpet so that everyone could hear him. (Ehud comes back in with trumpet and blows and tells Israel that God had given their enemies into their hands). That day the Israelites took back possession of their land and killed 10,000 of the Moabites. That day the children of Israel became the Masters of Moab and had peace for 80 years.

God does answer prayer, sometimes he uses unlikely people to give the answers and bring victory. Let's pray and thank God for answering prayer.



Extended Time Game or Activity: Wrong –Handed Relay

Create two teams with an even number of players. Arrange a number of tasks to be completed on one side of the room and line up the players on the other side.

Tie each player's dominant hand behind their back so that they can only use their weaker hand to perform the tasks. Create tasks such as pouring water from a pitcher, cutting a circle out of paper, coloring and staying in the lines.

Let the children know they must perform the tasks perfectly before they can run back to the next team member.

Each team member must race across the room, perform and complete one task with their weaker hand and race back and tag the next team member. The first team to successfully complete tasks first wins a prize.

Bible Bucks: Give Bible Bucks to the children that have researched the clue card given last week and had the right answer about who the story was about. Give Bible Bucks to those who knew their memory verse. Let the children put their bucks in their holders. Give out new clue cards with memory verse for next week.



Bible Detectives
Lesson Five: The Case of the Vanishing Victim
The Good Samaritan
Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: First aid items-band aids, gauze, empty pill bottles, etc... enough for all children, white paper bags, crayons, contact paper, extra clue cards, key rings

Offering: First aid bag

Craft: Building blocks, plastic people and animals

Memory Verse: Write the memory verse in phrases on 5-7 band aids-one set per child, card stock

Lesson: Bible

Extended Time Game or Activity: 45 band aids, 3 cups of water

Bible Bucks for those that learned memory verse before class and/or knew what the story was.

Clue Cards for all children with next week's memory verse and clue for next week's lesson.

Bible Detectives

Lesson Five: The Case of the Vanishing Victim

The Good Samaritan

Scripture Text: Luke 10:25-37

Memory Verse: Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well-doing, for we shall reap, if we faint not.



Welcome: Welcome each child with a smile and ask if they figured out what the story is going to be today.



Pre-session: The children will be making a mini first aid kit today. (**Clue: The person in the story needed first aid**) Give the children a few first aid items: band aids, gauze, empty pill bottles, etc... Let them decorate the outside of a white paper bag. They could draw a red cross on the bag and draw medical pictures on it and then place the first aid items in the bag.



Prayer: Pray with the children today asking God to help them be like Jesus and care for those who have a need of Him.



Offering: Let the children place their offering in a first aid bag



Songs: What A Mighty God We Serve, I'm in the Lord's Army, If You're Happy and You Know It



Craft: Let the children use building blocks to make an inn (hotel in our day). (**Clue: There was an inn in our story today**) Bring plastic people and animals so that the children can place them in the inn. Talk to them about the differences in inns of the Bible days and hotels in our day.



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Give each child a set of the memory verse written on band aids. Let them peel off the band aids and stick them in order on a piece of card stock. Read the memory verse together as a group several times.



Lesson: Has anyone figured what the lesson is about today? Someone needed first aid and they stayed at an inn. Hmmm. Let's look in the Bible and see if we can read the story there.

Read Luke 10: 30-37

That sure solves our case, doesn't it? Our case had a funny name today. The case of the vanishing victim. Well, we know we had a victim in our story. But what about the vanishing part? I think he vanished or wasn't in that place anymore because some one cared for him.

The man that took him to inn is usually referred to as the Good Samaritan. Why was he good? (Discuss the children's answers). That's right, he took care of the man that was attacked by the robbers.

But, there were other people that came by also. Did they stop and help the man? No, they didn't, even though one was a priest and the other a Jew. Those men should have showed compassion and helped the man but they didn't. Doesn't sound like they wanted to be bothered.

The Samaritan was very kind. He took the man to the inn, took care of his wounds and paid the innkeeper to take care of him and paid for his room. He went out of his way for a stranger, didn't he? Why would anyone help someone and not expect a reward? Maybe the Samaritan showed compassion because someone had once helped him. Or maybe he could imagine how it would feel to be robbed and beaten and left to die.

The devil has robbed many people. Some have lost their jobs, families and homes because of alcohol and drugs. Others have lost all hope. They don't see how things could ever be any better. But Jesus is like the Good Samaritan. He wants to help those that have been hurt by the devil and he wants us to help others. Jesus died on

the cross for everyone and He wants us to tell others about him. Do I help others when they ask? Do I tell other people about Jesus? We want to be like the Good Samaritan and care for others like Jesus does. If you would like to be a better neighbor or if you are the one who has been robbed by the devil, there is room for everyone to pray right now. Give the altar call and pray with the children.



Extended Time Game or Activity: The Good Samaritan Game

Use this game to illustrate how Jesus wants us to take care of each other. Form teams of four. Choose one person on each team to be the hurt man who was robbed and beaten on his way to Jericho. Have the hurt people lie on the floor at the end of the room opposite their teams. Give each team a supply of 10-15 adhesive bandages and a cup of water.

On “go” teams race with their supplies to their hurt team members. The goal is to put 10 bandages on the hurt neighbor, give him or her a drink of water, and carry the person back to the starting point.

Once every team has accomplished this, ask them how they felt when they were helping the hurt person. Ask the hurt person how they felt when they were being helped. Talk to them about things we can do to help people in need.

Bible Bucks: Give Bible Bucks to the children that have researched the clue card given last week and had the right answer about who the story was about. Give Bible Bucks to those who knew their memory verse. Let the children put their bucks in their holders. Give out new clue cards with memory verse for next week.



Bible Detectives
Lesson Six: The Case of the Moving Fingers
Daniel and the Writing on the Wall
Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: (See lesson)

Offering: Glove

Craft: Plastic gloves (food handling type)-one per child, popcorn, puppy chow whatever you choose to have the children stuff the gloves with, yarn

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, construction paper, pencils, scissors

Lesson-(See lesson)

Extended Time Activity: Utility gloves-one per child, tape, large paper for wall, newspapers, pans of paint, three dowel rods

Bible Bucks for those that learned memory verse before class and/or knew what the story was.

Clue Cards for all children with next week's memory verse and clue for next week's lesson.

Bible Detectives

Lesson Six: The Case of the Moving Fingers

Daniel and the Writing on the Wall

Scripture Text: Daniel 5

Memory Verse: Proverbs 20:11 Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.



Welcome: Greet each child with a smile and a warm welcome. Ask them if they have figured out the story using their clue cards.



Pre-session: Let the children do invisible ink messages today. (**Clue: There was a message in the story today**) Allow them to put their clue cards on the key rings

What you'll need: Half a lemon, water, spoon, bowl, Q-tip, white paper, small lamp

1. Squeeze the lemon juice into the bowl and add a few drops of water, mix with the spoon.
2. Dip the Q-tip into the mixture and write a message onto the white paper.
3. Wait for the juice to dry so that it becomes totally invisible.
4. Heat the paper with the teachers help by holding it close to the warm light bulb. The message will appear.



Prayer: Pray with the children asking God to touch their hearts today.



Offering: Let the children put their offering in a glove today. (**Clue: The message was delivered by a hand**)



Songs: Be Careful Little Eyes What You See, I'm in the Lord's Army, Father Abraham



Craft: Give each child a clear plastic glove (food handling type gloves). Let them stuff the glove with popcorn and tie the end of the glove with yarn. They could also be stuffed with puppy chow or add in M&M's or candy corn.



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on the dry erase or chalk board. Let the children draw around their hands on white paper and cut them out. They should then write the memory verse on the hands. They can trade their hands with the other children and read the memory verse to each other. See if they can find their hands at the end by checking the size of the cut out hands.



Lesson : (Set up a divider of some sort that someone can be behind and reach over to help tell the story. Stuff a heavy duty glove making sure one finger is pointed out. We placed a pencil in one finger and stuffed around to make it stick out more. Mount the glove on a long wooden stick (a mop handle should work. The hand will be going over or to the side of the divider. Practice with the hand on the stick before the story to see which works best, write the message that Belshazzar saw ahead of time on a sheet of craft paper and be ready to pin it on the divider when the hand comes out)

Well, these clues today seemed pretty easy to me. What do you guys think?
Our story today is found in Daniel 3.

Daniel was a man who obeyed God in difficult circumstances. Daniel served King Nebuchadnezzar for many years. When Nebuchadnezzar died his grandson Belshazzar became king. Belshazzar did not believe in the true God but instead worshiped many idols. Belshazzar didn't seek godly wisdom from Daniel; he chose to get wisdom from magicians and astrologers.

Because he lived for himself, Belshazzar lived his life without the One True god as his authority. He thought everything was just fine in his life. At the time of our story Belshazzar is inside Babylon surrounded by walls that were supposed to protect the people from enemies. Enemies were surrounding the walls and he knew this, but he wasn't afraid. He thought he was safe. He didn't need anything.

He decided to throw a big banquet. He invited 1,000 of his important friends. At this banquet the king and his guests were drinking wine. Belshazzar made a terrible mistake. As he was drinking the wine he had an idea. He commanded someone to go to the treasury and bring the Holy items that they had captured from the Jews when they attacked Jerusalem. Some of those items were gold and silver goblets that the priest used to drink from when they worshiped God. He commanded that they be brought to him so that he could use them to drink wine from at his banquet.

When the items were brought to the king wine was poured in them and the guests began to toast each other and praise the idols of their people. Belshazzar's behavior was very offensive to the One True God. His act was sin in God's sight. His actions were prideful. Pride is a sin.

As Belshazzar and his guest were praising their false gods, (show the hand coming from behind the divider, put up the message that was written) fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote a message on the wall. Belshazzar was struck dumb... his blood froze and his knees knocked together, he was so frightened.

He sent for his wizards and counselors to tell him what the message said, but none of them were able to interpret it. The Queen came to the King and told him about Daniel. Daniel was known for his wisdom and obedience to God. He lived to please God. Because of Daniel's reputation the Queen knew who could help to understand the meaning of the writing on the wall.

Daniel was brought before Belshazzar. Daniel told the king he would tell him what the writing meant. Mene, Mene, Tekel, Parsin-God has numbered your kingdom and finished it, you are weighed in the balances and found wanting. Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians. The night after Daniel gave this interpretation the city was invaded and Belshazzar was killed.

Belshazzar got to the place that he was elevating himself above God. He did not reverence the things of God. We need to be very careful that we always treat the things of God as Holy.

Do we run and play in the church? No we don't. Do we throw our Bibles on the floor? No, we don't. Do we say bad things about our Pastor or our Brothers and Sisters in the church? No, we don't. The things of God are Holy. We want to always have a reverence for these things, that means an appreciation and love for the things of God.

Let's pray and ask God to help us to always love the things of God and take care of them.



Extended Time Game or Activity: Give each child a glove (utility work gloves are cheapest) and stuff it with paper with the index finger pointing up. Tape large paper on the wall. Have a few pans of paint on the floor on top of newspaper. In groups of three, wrap glove on the end of a dowel rod and let the children paint their name using the index finger of the glove dipped in paint.

Bible Bucks: Give Bible Bucks to the children that have researched the clue card given last week and had the right answer about who the story was about. Give Bible Bucks to those who knew their memory verse. Let the children put their bucks in their holders. Give out new clue cards with memory verse for next week



Bible Detectives
Lesson Seven: The Case of the Miracle Stick
Elisha and the Axe That Floated
Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: Make copies of an axe - one per child, contact paper, key rings, extra clue cards

Offering: Tool box

Craft: Graham crackers, icing, plastic knives, candies to decorate with if desired

Memory Verse: Construction Paper, scissors

Lesson: Piece of iron, tub of water

Extended Time Game or Activity: bean bag, yarn, tape

Bible Bucks for those that learned memory verse before class and/or knew what the story was.

Clue Cards for all children with next week's memory verse and clue for next week's lesson.

Bible Detectives

Lesson Seven: The Case of the Miracle Stick

Elisha and the Axe That Floated

Scripture Text: II Kings 6

Memory Verse: Proverbs 22:7 The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.



Welcome: Greet each child with a warm welcome. Ask if any of the children have solved the case of where the story is today.



Pre-session: Have several tools sitting out on the table. Best if these are play tools. Give the children the materials and instructions needed to make axes. **(Clue: There is an ax in the story today)** Let the children put clue cards on key rings.



Prayer: Let the children worship today. We want to teach them from a good example so make sure the children see the teachers worshiping also.



Offering: Let the children place their offering in a tool box today.



Songs: Building Up the Temple, Wise Man and Foolish Man



Craft: Let the children use graham crackers and icing to build a house, a school or whatever they would like to build. They can eat them or take them home. **(Clue: Someone was building a building in the story today).**



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on the dry erase or chalk board. Let each child draw a different tool and cut it out. Have them give their drawings to the teacher. The teacher will mix them up and pass them out, telling each child which part of the memory verse to write on the tool. The children will write their part of the verse and then all pieces will go into the center of the table. The children will work together putting the memory verse together. When completed the teacher can help them glue the tools onto a poster board in the right order. Read the memory verse together several times as a group.



Lesson: Did you figure out the story from the clues? (Listen to the children's ideas) Well, the case today is a story you probably haven't heard very often. It's a story of a miracle that happened in the Old Testament of the Bible.

The story is about a great prophet named Elisha. It seems that Elisha devoted a lot of his time and attention to the training of the young prophets. It was very important to Elisha that he train and teach the next generation of prophets and leaders in the ways of the Lord.

It appears that Elisha may have lived with the students as he taught and worked with them. The school had grown and become too crowded. The students wanted to build a bigger place. Elisha gave his consent and the students began the building. Elisha's students wanted him to come with them. They had a good relationship with the man of God, just as each of you should. While you are young, God gives you role models to look up to, your parents, men and women who have served the Lord for a long time, and most of all the man of God.

As the young prophets were busy working, one dropped an iron ax head into the water. The man cried to Elisha, "Master the ax is borrowed". The young prophet immediately went to the prophet with his need. His concern was for the property of another person. He didn't just say, "Oh well, that belongs to someone else, so I don't have to worry about it". It was important to him to take care of the borrowed item.

God performed a miracle through the hand of Elisha. When Elisha put a stick into the water the iron head of the ax floated up to the top. Have you ever tried to make iron float? Let's see if we can do it. (Place a piece of iron in a container of water) Is it floating? Iron is a very heavy metal and it does not float-it sinks. But God is

not bound to the laws of gravity or any other law of nature.

What a joy and relief there must have been in the man's heart as he retrieved the ax head he thought he had lost for good. What seemed to be a bad accident turned out to bring God glory!

Have you ever had anything in your life that seemed to be a disaster, but God worked it out for good in your life? I have. God delights in helping his children in impossible circumstances.

Remember, like the young prophet brought his need to the man of God we can bring our needs to the man of God and he will pray with us and help us find an answer. We have a God who cares about every situation in our lives, small or great; there is no situation too hard for Him. Take prayer request from the children and pray about each need with the children.



Extended Time Game or Activity: Bean bag Volley

String a piece of yarn across the room and attach with tape on both sides. The yarn should be at least a foot above the children's heads. Place one team on each side of the yarn. Toss a bean bag to one child. They must tell of a prayer that God has answered for them. If they are able to their side receives 10 points. If unable to the other team receives the points. The bean bag is tossed to the other side and play continues until all the children have had a turn. Tally up the score and award a small prize to the winning team members.

Bible Bucks: Give Bible Bucks to the children that have researched the clue card given last week and had the right answer about who the story was about. Give Bible Bucks to those who knew their memory verse. Let the children put their bucks in their holders. Give out new clue cards with memory verse for next week.



Bible Detectives
Lesson Eight: The Case of the Missing Things
Lost Sheep/ Lost Coin
Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: Contact paper, key rings, extra clue cards

Craft: Construction paper, art materials, colorful plates and cups

Memory Verse: Dry Erase or chalk board, three different colored index cards with memory verse written in phrases on 6-7 of each color

Lesson: Broom, apron, coins, hidden coin, shepherd costume, staff, sheep ears made for a child

Extended Time Game or Activity: Small drinks, chocolate coins, sheep cupcakes

Bible Bucks for those that learned memory verse before class and/or knew what the story was.

Clue Cards for all children with next week's memory verse and clue for next week's lesson.

Bible Detectives

Lesson Eight: The Case of the Missing Things

Lost Sheep/ Lost Coin

Scripture Text: Matthew 18

Memory Verse: Luke 19:10 For the son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.



Welcome: Greet each child with a warm welcome. Ask if any of the children have figured out what the story today is from their clue cards.



Pre-session: Play a game of I Spy with the children. Let the children put their clue cards on key rings.



Prayer: Ask the children to pray with you for the lost souls in your city. We want the children to be soul winners and God can use children to bring people to him.



Offering: Let the children put their offerings in the offering container counting them as they put them in. (**Clue: There was a lost coin in our story today**).



Songs: The B-I-B-L-E, It's Bubbling, The Birdie With the Yellow Bill



Craft: Let the children make placemats for a party that will happen after the lesson today. They can decorate their placemat any way that they choose. Help them to set each placemat with a colorful plate and cup. (**Clue: There was a party when a lost thing was found**)



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on the dry erase or chalk board. Divide the class into three groups and give each group a different colored index cards. One blue, one red, one green. Hide the colored index cards with the memory verse on them around the room. Let each group find their color of cards and go back to the table to put the verse together. The first group to finish are the winners. Read the verse together as a group several times.



Lesson: (Let two other teachers help out today. One will be the woman with the lost coin and the other the Shepherd with the lost sheep.)

Can anyone guess what the story is about today? You had a clue about coins and another clue about a party when the lost thing was found. Let's see if we can figure it out when the other teachers act the story out for us.

Woman enters with a broom. Continues sweeping around the room and talking to herself about how she has to find the lost coin. She reaches into her pocket and counts her coins several times and each time only has nine when she should have ten. She is desperate to find the coin and moves things around and looks under everything. The coin that has been hidden before class is finally swept out from under where it was hid. She is very happy and as she exits she talks about the wonderful party that she is going to have to celebrate finding her coin.

Shepherd enters with his crook. He is calling for his lost sheep Fuzzy. He asks the children if they have seen his little sheep. He counted every one of them when they came home and one was missing. He left the 99 sheep and has been searching for the one lost sheep for hours. He walks around the room calling for the little sheep. After a few minutes one of the children as the sheep begins to baa. The shepherd finds the little sheep and leads him out. He is so thankful that he found the little sheep before the wolf could find him. They exit.

Teacher: This case was about lost things wasn't it? The coin and the sheep. The coin was in the house lost and the sheep was outside the fold lost. They were both lost but in different places. Just like in real life, some people that are in the house-church are still lost. If you go to church and have not repented, been baptized in Jesus name and been filled with the Holy Ghost, you are still lost. Even if you are in the "house". The people that are not in the house like the lost sheep are those who have been in the house and wandered away from God or they have never been

in the house. These people need God too. Both of the lost things were lost.

There was great rejoicing when the coin and the sheep were found, just like when someone obeys the plan of salvation. The Bible tells us that the angels rejoice when one sinner comes to repentance. How important it is for us to be saved and not be lost. We all want to go to Heaven and live for Jesus. If you have not followed the plan of Salvation you need to do something about that. Until you do you are just like the lost coin and the lost sheep. Let's pray and ask God to help us be saved. Lead in prayer.



Extended Time Game or Activity: Have a party ready for the kids. The woman with the lost coin was going to celebrate when she found her coin. Give the children small drinks and chocolate coins and maybe a cupcake with a sheep face.

Bible Bucks: Give Bible Bucks to the children that have researched the clue card given last week and had the right answer about who the story was about. Give Bible Bucks to those who knew their memory verse. Let the children put their bucks in their holders. Give out new clue cards with memory verse for next week.



Bible Detectives
Lesson Nine: The Case of the Lost Faith
John the Baptist
Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: Construction paper, pencils, scissors, tape measures, contact paper, key rings, extra clue cards

Offering: Shoe

Memory Verse: Green construction paper, crayons

Lesson: Costume for John the Baptist

Extended Time Game or Activity: Two plastic water bottles one with lid, old glove, sharpie

Bible Bucks for those that learned memory verse before class and/or knew what the story was.

Clue Cards for all children with next week's memory verse and clue for next week's lesson.

Bible Detectives

Lesson Nine: The Case of the Lost Faith

John the Baptist

Scripture Text: Luke 7:17-23

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.



Welcome: Welcome each of the children, ask them if they have figured out what the story is about today from their clue card.



Pre-session: Have the children find a friend and the two children draw around each other's foot. You only need to draw around one foot. When done the children need to cut out their foot and write their initial in small print on the back. To play the game pick up all the feet and scramble them up and hand them back out. Give the children tape measures and let them try to figure out whose foot they have by measuring each other's feet. After they finish talk about how footprints are used in detective work. (**Clue: Feet are mentioned in our story today.**) Let the children put their clue cards on their key rings to take home the last session.



Prayer: Pray for the class today asking God to help us have faith in him. (**Clue: Faith was mentioned in our story today**)



Offering: Let the children put their offering in a shoe today.



Songs: Faith, Faith, Faith Just a Little Bit of Faith, Have Faith in God, The BIBLE



Craft: Give the children each a piece of card stock with the word faith written on it. With crayons let the children outline the word with lots of different

colors until the whole page is filled with Faith. (**Clue: Someone's faith was getting low in our story today**)



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on the dry erase or chalk board. Using the feet that were made in pre-session let the children glue the foot onto a sheet of green construction paper and write their memory verse below the foot. Read the memory verse several times with the children as they work. If time allows let the children say it individually.



Lesson:

Story: Was anyone able to guess the story yet? It's a hard one. The Case of the Lost Faith. How can anyone lose their faith? That sounds strange. (Have a teacher come in dressed like John the Baptist) He/she can say, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, Repent for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand. There is one coming after me whose shoe latchets I am not worthy to unloose. Prepare ye the way of the Lord"-exits.

Wow, who was that guy? Let children guess. Some of you guessed-that was John the Baptist- he was one of the greatest men in the bible. Jesus said, "There was none greater, born among women than John." Why was the clue today footprints? Because John was the "forerunner" of Jesus. He came before Jesus' time and told people Jesus was coming. Jesus followed in John's footsteps. John preached repentance and Jesus gave the complete plan of salvation. John did not think he was worthy to even untie Jesus' shoes.

How could this great man have a case of missing faith? How could he ever doubt who Jesus was?

John was in prison when it happened. He had preached to the ruler of that time about a sin that he was doing and it made the ruler mad. He had put John into prison. While John was in prison he had time to think. And think, and think. Sometimes having too much time on our hands can be a problem. We start thinking on things that confuse our minds. Anyway... John starting wondering if Jesus was really who he thought he was-the Messiah- the one who was going to bring salvation. He sent two of his disciples to ask Jesus "Are you the Messiah, or do we look for another"? Instead of just telling them yes, Jesus told them-Read from the text. Luke 7:22

I'm sure when John heard this from his disciples he was very joyful and those doubts and fears he had went away. He could be sure that he was in the plan of God even in prison.

Do you ever think “God doesn't love me, because of a bad situation you are in?” or when things don't go the way you think they should, do you get upset with God? If your parents say no when you ask for something, does that mean they don't love you and you should doubt what they tell you? Of course not. That's the same way with God. We are his children. Sometimes He has to say no to us and to change things in our lives that we don't understand (give examples: moves, new schools, new stepparents) but he always cares for us. He works all things for our good. We should always have faith in God, He says in his word that he will never leave us or forsake us, not even to the end of the world. That's a big promise. Lead into an altar call.



Extended Time Game or Activity:

Materials: 2 plastic water bottles, old glove

Before class, take an old glove and draw or glue the following letters on the knuckles: F - E - A - R.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

You will take two empty plastic water bottles, and tightly cap one of them. Do not cap the other bottle. During class, you will put on the glove and form a fist to show the word fear. Then you will hit both bottles. The uncapped bottle will crush, but the one that has the cap on tight will not crush. You will compare the uncapped bottle to a person without faith, and the capped bottle to a person who has faith. Although faith itself is not visible, what faith produces is easy to see.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Today I want to demonstrate how we can see faith. Here I have two empty plastic bottles. They look the same, but there is a difference. This one with a cap is full of faith. You cannot see it now, but it is there. The other bottle does not have faith—it is empty.

(Put on the glove showing the word fear.) What do you think will happen to this bottle without faith when fear comes along? (Allow for answers, and then smash the bottle with your fist.) See, fear was able to crush it.

What about this bottle filled with faith? (Hit the capped bottle.) Look, fear could

not crush it. In fact, it does not even look hurt. With faith, we get strength from God. We cannot see faith itself, but what faith produces we can see quite easily, such as strength, courage, peace of mind, and self-control. We do not need to worry or be afraid of anything when we have faith in Jesus.

Bible Bucks: Give Bible Bucks to the children that have researched the clue card given last week and had the right answer about who the story was about. Give Bible Bucks to those who knew their memory verse. Let the children put their bucks in their holders. Give out new clue cards with memory verse for next week.



Bible Detectives
Lesson Ten: The Case of the Missing People
Rapture
Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: Trumpet design-one per child, toilet paper roll, gold or yellow construction paper scissors, glue, key rings, and contact paper

Craft: Cupcakes, white icing, plastic knives, white, silver and gold sprinkles, wedding cups and plates

Memory Verse: Purchased wedding bells

Lesson: Wedding dress, white long dress-stained and torn, hotdog with ketchup, Bible, magazine, pack of gum, trumpet recording

Bible Bucks for those that learned memory verse before class and/or knew what the story was about for today.

Bible Detectives

Lesson Ten: The Case of the Missing People

Rapture

Scripture Text: I Corinthians 15:52

Memory Verse: I Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; we shall not all sleep but we shall be changed,



Welcome: Welcome each child with a warm smile and ask if any of them figured out what the story is about today.



Pre-session: Let the children make trumpets using toilet paper rolls and the patterns that have been made for each of them. Let them glue on buttons for the keys. (**Clue: A trumpet will be in the story today**) Put last clue card on the key ring. They will take them home next week. (The roll will be the trumpet handle, you will roll a yellow piece of paper to make the trumpet horn end and glue or tape on.)



Prayer: This session will be more serious than usual. Pray with the children that God can have his way. God can fill children with the Holy Ghost in services like this.



Offering: Let the children place their offering in the offering container



Songs: I've Got the Holy Ghost, He's Coming Soon,



Craft: Give each child a cupcake and white icing to decorate it with. Have white and gold or silver sprinkles to put on top. Let the children know these are wedding cupcakes. Bring pretty wedding type napkins and cups and have a small wedding reception. (**Clue: There is a wedding in the story today**)



Memory Verse: Use purchased wedding bells to write phrases of the memory verse on. Tape the bells on the wall in order. Read the verse with the children, turning a bell backwards every time the verse is read. By the last reading the children will be saying the verse from memory.



Lesson: (The lesson today will involve two other teachers or volunteers. One will be a careful bride with a beautiful dress on ready for her bridegroom to come, the other will be a careless bride dressed in white but her dress has stains and maybe a few tears)

Our case today is a big one and involves lots of people. It must have something to do with a wedding and something to do with a trumpet. Hmmm...
Wait here come two brides, maybe they will help us figure out the case.

(Both brides enter and sit in the chairs in front of the children).

Careful Bride: I'm so excited. The bridegroom said he would be here to take me to the wedding any day. All I have to do is keep my garment white and live for him. I can't wait.

Careless Bride: I'm excited too, but it has been awhile since he said that. Do you really think he's still coming? I'm starting to get tired of waiting. I've tried to keep my garment white but it's no fun just doing what he asked me to all the time.

Careful Bride: How can you say that? He promised He was coming to take us to the wedding and he has never lied. He's promised so many good things now and after the wedding. You want to make sure you stay pure for him. You need to pray every day and read your Bible. That's how you'll be able to keep your garment white.

Careless Bride: I really want to see him when he comes, but right now I have other things I want to do. He's not here and he can't see what I'm doing. I'll have time to get ready before he comes. I'm sure I'll have lots of warning. (Picks up hotdog with ketchup and spills some on dress) Oops! Oh, well I'm sure the bridegroom will understand a few spots, he is really very loving and kind.

Careful Bride: I don't think your attitude is right. He sees what we do and even though he is very loving and kind, he gave us instructions about how to keep our garments white. I don't think you'll have a lot of time to clean your dress when you hear him coming. He said to be ready, because he would come like a thief in the night, at a time when you're not expecting him. That's why I want to always be looking for him.

(She opens her bible and begins to read)

Careless Bride: Well, you can do what you want. (Opens a pack of gum and picks up a teen magazine and begins reading)

(After a minute or so a trumpet sounds)

Careful Bride: Oh my goodness, that's him. The bridegroom. He said he would come with the sound of a trumpet. (She stands and fixes her dress). She goes to the door and exits to a voice saying "Well done my good and faithful servant, enter in."

Careless Bride: Oh, He's really here. Well, I guess He'll just have to take me as I am. I don't have time to clean up or fix my garments. He'll understand. She's goes to the door, and hears: "Depart from me, I never knew you." (She stumbles back and starts crying,) "I should have listened to his instructions, I knew he wanted my garment to be white and clean, but I didn't listen and tried to do things my way. He came and I wasn't ready. She exits at the other end still crying.

Teacher: There is a story in the bible about the very same thing that we just saw. Read the text in Matthew 25.

There were five virgins that were wise and five that were foolish. Just like our two brides tonight. When the bridegroom came he did not take all the virgins. Only those that had oil in their lamps and had made themselves ready.

The Bridegroom is Jesus and he is coming back to take his bride (the church) to heaven to live with him forever. We want to be among those people that are missing when he comes. We don't want to be left behind. This is a true story. Jesus left us an instruction book on how to go to heaven. It is the Bible. He wants every one of us to obey the plan of salvation and be saved. Repent and be baptized in Jesus Name and be filled with the Holy Ghost. He doesn't want us to have dirty garments-they need to be washed and clean by the blood that He shed for us. Who

wants to go to heaven and be with Jesus forever? Begin altar call.



Extended Game and Activity: There is no planned activity after the altar call. We found we actually went over time with the children praying and seeking God. If needed teachers should sit down with the children after the altar call and make sure all the children understand the plan of salvation. We want all of our children to be among the missing people of our story today.

Bible Detectives Party

The children have solved a lot of cases and hopefully have learned a lot.

They will take home their clue card key rings and they will have a record of all their memory verses and reminders of the stories.

Today they will count up their Bible Bucks and spend them in the Detective Store. You can purchase small items for sale in the store and price them accordingly. Small candies or trinkets are good choices. Dollar Tree is a good source for items, party stores or Oriental Trading (an online party store).

Have a party with finger sandwiches, chips, drinks. Review some of the memory verses and stories and play some of the favorite games.

Make sure they play a game of I Spy before leaving.

Make a short introduction to the next series.

(We always have the next lesson be an intro. to the new series that is coming. (Gives time to do a redo on the room décor too). Puppets, skits and a story are a part of it. We call this Holy Ghost Friday (Sunday) and really seek God with the children.)

RESOURCES

<p>Bible Detective Clue Card Memory Verse The Case of the Missing Brother</p> <p>Clue: There were two of these, one did right the other did not.</p> <p>Memory Verse: Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin. James 4:17</p>	<p>Bible Detective Clue Card and Memory Verse The Case of Ten Wrong, Two Right</p> <p>Clue: Unbelief was their problem, they saw giants and bugs</p> <p>Memory Verse: He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord. Psalm 112:7</p>
<p>Bible Detective Clue Card and Memory Verse The Case of the Missing Things</p> <p>Clue: One was shiny, one was white, both were lost.</p> <p>Memory Verse: For the son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10</p>	<p>Bible Detective Clue Card and Memory Verse The Case of the Miracle Stick</p> <p>Clue: A heavy thing became light.</p> <p>Memory Verse: The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender. Proverbs 22:7</p>
<p>Bible Detective Clue Card and Memory Verse The Case of the Night Fright</p> <p>Clue: A ruler was rudely awakened in the night.</p> <p>Memory Verse: So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. Hebrews 13:6</p>	<p>Bible Detective Clue Card and Memory Verse The Case of the Leftie</p> <p>Clue: Taxes were paid, a king was killed</p> <p>Memory Verse: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty. I Corinthians 1:27</p>

<p>Bible Detectives Clue Card and Memory Verse The Case of the Vanishing Victim</p> <p>Clue: A First Aid Kit was needed</p> <p>Memory Verse: And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. Galatians 6:9</p>	<p>Bible Detectives Clue Card and Memory Verse The Case of the Missing People Rapture</p> <p>Clue: It was important to be ready.</p> <p>Memory Verse: Behold I show you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed, I Corinthians 15:51</p>
<p>Bible Detectives Clue Card and Memory Verse The Case of The Moving Fingers</p> <p>Clue: A party was broken up by a strange message.</p> <p>Memory Verse: Even a child is known by his doings whether his work be pure, and whether it be right. Proverbs 20:11</p>	<p>Bible Detectives Clue Card and Memory Verse The Case of the Lost Faith</p> <p>Clue: Jesus sent a message to a man in prison.</p> <p>Memory Verse: But without faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Hebrews 11:6</p>

The clue cards should be cut out –one set per child in the class. They are given out the week previous. The children try to solve the clue and learn the memory verse and bring the card back the next week with the answer to the clue written on the card. They then laminate and put their cards on a key ring during pre-session. (Have extra cards available for those that forget to bring them back, you may also make a picture to go on the front of the cards if you choose).

