VISUAL AIDS - THE WHY AND HOW

Visual aids are like telescopes. It's not the telescope we admire, but the stars and heavenly bodies which we see through it. Just so, a visual aid points us to a truth. It's not the visual we want children to admire, but the

truth we seek to teach with that visual as our helper.

A visual should be a servant to you and to your lesson. It should help you to gain and keep attention to the end that the truth may be learned. It should serve to involve the children at least by means of sight. At times a visual can also involve them by means of touch and action, depending on the visual and the limitations mentioned below.

LIMITATIONS

Not every lesson lends itself to the same type of visual. you may be limited by what is available on the market. Is it flannelgraph? Or a flat picture? Or flashcards? Perhaps a filmstrip? Sometimes the important thing to visualize is a new word or a strange custom. Much action, which is important to the meaning of the lesson, often calls for flannelgraph, plastic figures, or some other type of moveable pictures.

The place where your class meets will also influence what visuals you use. The outdoor usually rules out flannelgraph, but calls for large, bold pictures readily seen at distances. A tiny area hardly separated from other classes makes projected aids difficult and bothersome to others.

The age-group you teach is one of the biggest guiding factors in choosing your visual aids. A pre-schooler is curious about everything. He learns through his senses and touches everything. He doesn't understand symbolism or time and space. He is literal-minded. And he is thrilled with simple things - a snowflake, a seed.

Primaries have active imaginations - can "pretend" almost anything. They are proud of their growing ability to read. Juniors are very aware of the world around them. Time and space and geography are no longer unusual or meaningless.

The young teen-ager is very aware of "growing up." He wants nothing childish. Know your children and you will know better what visuals to choose for each lesson.

GOOD MEASURE

Measure your visual by this yardstick:

- 1. Simple
- 2. Attractive and colorful.
- 3. Biblically correct
- 4. Large enough for size of group.
- 5. Placed where all eyes can see it
- 6. Sturdy enough for children to handle.

WARNINGS

Be free from the mechanics of a visual. If you are more concerned with how to use the visual than the truth behind it, then practice for smooth use, or discard it for a simpler one. Avoid anything that is mere entertainment. Children are entertained everywhere. Bible club or Sunday School is a time for teaching truth. Let your visual aids serve you for this purpose.

Be careful and constructively critical when you purchase ready-made materials. Avoid symbolism in illustrations. Look for printing that is easy to read. Avoid the gaudy and overly illustrated or colored. Do not use anything on which the artwork is not reasonably well done. Our method -- visuals included -- should in no way offend or hinder anyone from accepting the message of the Gospel which we preach.

An elaborate visual presentation is no substitute for thorough lesson preparation. Visuals won't teach the truth for you. They are mute servants. The Holy spirit within a Christian teacher is the Teacher of spiritual truths.

VISUAL AIDS FILE I. CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Baptist Distinctives

1

Bible Notes (Gen - Rev), Sermon book studies Bible Stories (Gen - Rev) Children Bible Verses Visualized (Gen -Rev) Church History Doctrines Evangelism Adult Child Homiletics

Missions	Data
	Pets
Object Lessons	Recipes
Pastoral Theology	Sewing
Poems	IV. PERSONAL ENRICHMENT
Programs (Seasonal, Graduation, Children's, etc.)	Devotions
Prophesy	Exercise
Seasonal Lessons (Christmas, Easter, etc.)	Grooming
Sermon Subjects	Relationships/Values
Speech	Pastor's Wife
Sunday School Helps (Organizational, Materials, etc.)	
Teacher Training	Personality/Self-Esteem
Visual Aids (Faces, Poster Info, Printing, Stick Figures,	Reading
etc.)	V. ISSUES/PEOPLE
II. FAMILY LIFE	Abortion Drugs/Smoking
Child Discipline	Biographies Religions/Cults
Children's Mementos	Child Abuse Working Wife
Children's Stories (non-Christian)	Communism
Dating/Sex	VI. PICTURE FILE
Family Recreation/Vacations	Adults Christian Helpers Misc.
Games	Animals Christmas Homes Bible Pictures
Health	Families Nature Children Fantasy
	Transportation
Marriage/Divorce	
Mental Health	SOME IDEAS FOR CARD SUBJECTS
Records (Family)	(FOR FILE)
Safety	abortion, alcohol, amusements, angels, anti-christ,

2

School

III. HOMEMAKING

Budgeting Christmas Decorating Furniture Making/Redoing Gardening Gifts/Ideas Home Decorating Home Repairs/Building House Plants Household Hints Nutrition/Food/Meals apostasy, assurance, authority, backsliding, baptism, Bible, blood, Calvinism, capital-punishment, catholic, children, Christian living, Christmas, church, comfort, communion, communism, creation, cross, cults, dancing, death, deity of Christ, discipleship, divorce, dress, drug, evangelism, evolution, excuses, faith, fathers, forgiveness, giving, God, gossip, grace, healing, heart, heaven, hell, Holy Spirit, home, homosexuals, humanism, idols, impurity, inspiration, incarnation, Jesus, judgment, justification, Leadership, lies, love, loyalty, marriage, Mary, men, mercy, mothers, miracles, money, movies, music, National Council, New Evangelicals, (the) New Year, obedience, peace, Peter, Pentecost, power, prayer, preachers, pride, promises, prophecy, repentance, resurrection, rest, revival, salvation, Satan, second coming, separation, service, sin, smoking,

soul-winning, stewardship, surrender, temptation, tears, thankfulness, tongues, tribulation, trinity, truth, unity, victory, vision, wisdom, women, worry, youth.

POSTERS - CHARTS - DIAGRAMS

A. What are their uses?

- *1. Symbols for reminding, teaching and comparing.*
- 2. Principal ingredients are inspiration, imagination and ingenuity.
- **B.** Posters should register a message without detail.
 - 1. Used to inform
 - 2. Used to exhort
 - 3. Used to persuade
- **C. Charts are visual devices to explain subject** matter.
 - 1. Used to teach Scripture memory work.
 - 2. To list and illustrate teaching methods.
 - 3. Teaching songs to children.
 - 4. Adaptable for use in any teaching situation.

D. Diagrams explain the relationship of one part to another in progress, development and

part to another in progress, development and growth.

- 1. Used greatly for statistics.
- 2. Inspiration for contest with children.
- *3. Helps to influence competition.*

E. Materials:

1. Felt-tip pens	9. Matt board
2. Colored pencils	10. Glue
3. Chalk and pastels	11. Tacks
4. Charcoal	12. Yardsticks
5. Crayons	13. Scissors
6. Butcher paper	14. Tempera
7. Newspaper print	15. India Ink
8. Cardboard	16. Construction paper
	17. Lettering Book

 Poster board - 14 ply is best for general use. If using tint, choose a color that will not fade - blue and purple are very vulnerable to sunlight.

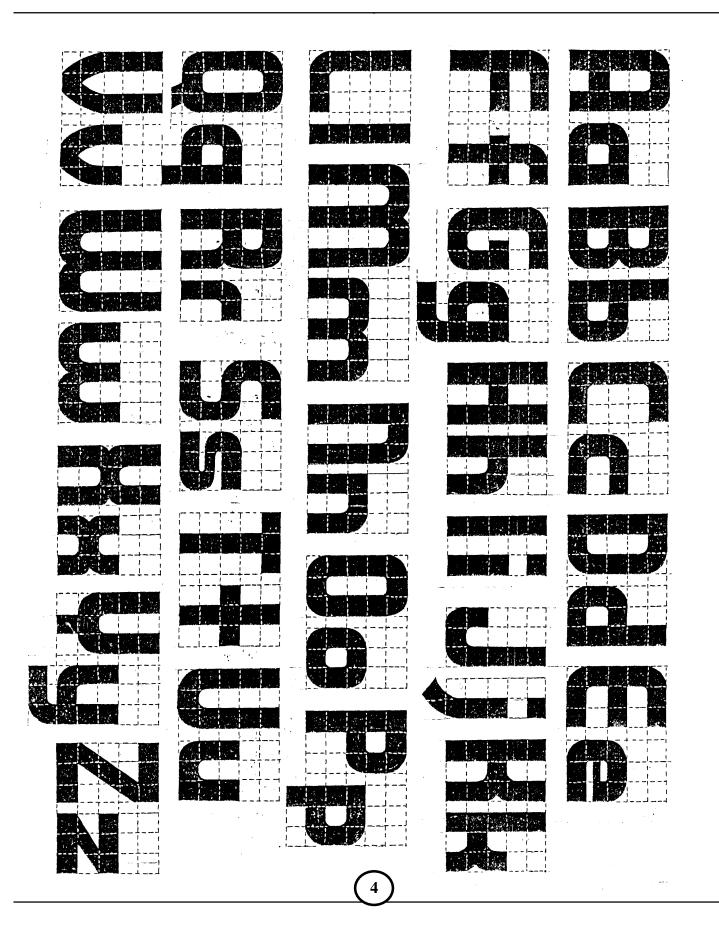
- 19. Window shades are great for charts and will roll up easily.
- 20. Wallpaper to cut out patterns and designs.
- 21. Glitter to sprinkle on top of glue and shake off excess.
- 22. Tissue for making flowers to add to posters.
- 23. Stencil lettering guides.
- 24. Commercially made stick-on letters.

F. Procedures:

- 1. Make a rough sketch indicating picture, wording and design.
- 2. No not clutter posters ONE message only.
- 3. Use only three colors for best eye appeal and message transfer.
- 4. Lettering should match theme.
- 5. Size should depend on space in which it will be shown. Be sure it is large enough for comfortable visual view.
- 6. Take advantage of Opaque projector for drawing and lettering.
- 7. Be complete but simple in relaying your message
- 8. Encourage the students to take part in making visual aids. Enthusiasm will increase for learning when they are included.

G. Books Used:

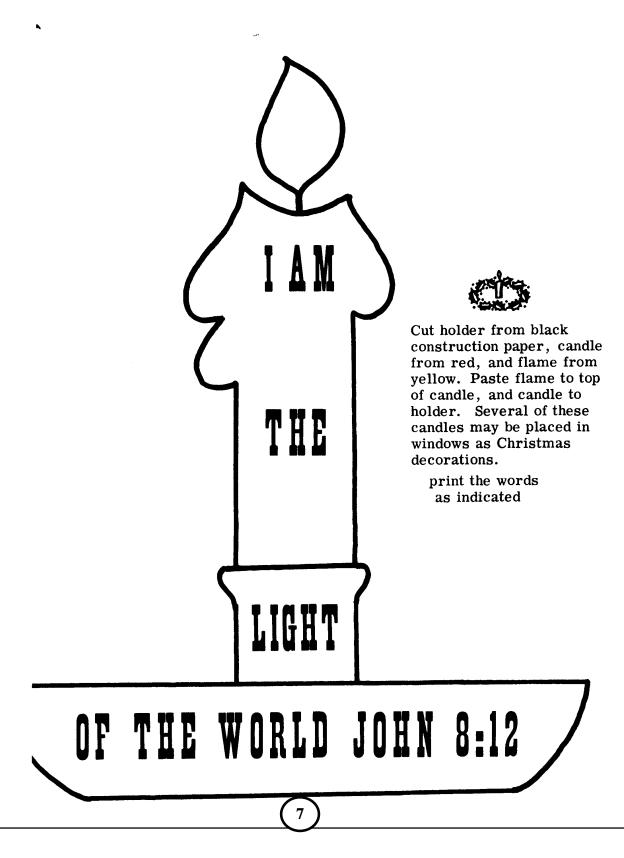
Bowers, Melvyn K., Easy Bulletin Boards. Caplan, Kate, Posters Ideas and Bulletin Boards Technique. Diachenka, Matthew K., Easy Bulletin Boards. Doan, Eleanor L., Make It Yourself Visual Aid Encyclopaedia. Ford, LeRoy, Tools For Teaching and Training. Garrison, Cecil I., 1001 Media Ideas For Teachers.





YOU are invited to a CHRISTMAS PARTY	YOU are invited to a CHRISTMAS PARTY
Place	Place
Date	Date
Time	Time
Phone	Phone
GAMES SONGS BIBLE STORY REFRESHMENTS	GAMES SONGS BIBLE STORY REFRESHMENTS
YOU	YOU
are invited to a	are invited to a
CHRISTMAS	CHRISTMAS
PARTY	PARTY 2
Place	Place
Date	Date
Time	Time
Phone	Phone
GAMES SONGS BIBLE STORY REFRESHMENTS	GAMES SONGS BIBLE STORY REFRESHMENTS
YOU are invited to a CHRISTMAS PARTY	YOU are invited to a CHRISTMAS PARTY
Place	Place
Date	Date
Time	Time
Phone	Phone
GAMES SONGS BIBLE STORY REFRESHMENTS	GAMES SONGS BIBLE STORY REFRESHMENTS

CANDLE and HOLDER



A THREE PART CHRISTMAS STORY <u>LESSON ONE</u> THE MESSAGE FROM HEAVEN

Scripture passage: Luke 1:26-38; Matt. 1:18-25

TELLING THE STORY

A long, long time ago, yes, about two thousand years ago there lived a very sweet girl whose name was Mary. She lived in the town of Nazareth in Galilee in the land of Palestine. Palestine is the land where the Jewish people used to live. Most of the Jewish people have been scattered throughout the world, but now they have part of their land and are a nation called Israel.

Mary was a Jewish girl. She loved and feared God. There was someone else whom she loved. She loved a man whose name was Joseph. Joseph was a carpenter from the city of Nazareth. Mary and Joseph must have been very happy and were looking forward to the day when they would be married.

One day Mary was all alone. She may have been in a garden or in a room, but we know that she was alone. We don't know what she was thinking about. She may have been thinking about Joseph. Perhaps she was thinking what a good man he was and that she was glad he was some day to be her husband. She may not have been thinking about Joseph at all. Perhaps she was thinking about God. She may have been thinking about the many times He had promised to send a Saviour. She may have been thinking about the time long ago when God had spoken to Isaiah the prophet telling him of the coming of a Saviour. Isaiah had written down what God had made known to him. These are the words (Isaiah 9:6), "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall he called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

After this it says, "The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will perform this." It simply means that the Lord of Hosts will do this. He will bring it to pass. Yes, God had promised a Saviour. He had told Isaiah, and Isaiah had told the people of Israel. All the Jewish people were looking for this Messiah that was to come. And then, suddenly, Mary wasn't alone any longer. Before her was an angel, an angel sent from God, the angel Gabriel. Mary had never seen an angel.

"Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." The angel was speaking to Mary (Luke 1:28).

"And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this could be" (Luke 1:29). Mary was worried because of what the angel had said to her. Highly favoured? Blessed among women? What could these words mean? How was she highly favoured? In what way was she blessed among women? Mary could not understand.

The angel spoke to her again. "Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God" (Luke 1:30). It was as though he was saying, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is pleased with you." Then he told her that she was to have a little baby boy. He also told her what she should name the baby. "Thou shalt call his name Jesus" (Luke 1:31).

The angel also told Mary what her son Jesus should be. "He shall be great and shall he called the Son of the Highest" (Luke 1:32).

Perhaps Mary in bewilderment shook her head and then she said, "How shall this be?" Mary could not understand how she could have a son for she was not married (Luke 1:34).

The angel explained to Mary, "The Holy Ghost (or Holy Spirit) shall come upon thee." Who is the Holy Spirit? Oh, He is God. You remember, don't you? God is three Persons - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was to come upon Mary. After that Mary was to have a dear little Son whose name would be Jesus. He was to be called "The Son of God." This baby would be different from any that ever had been or ever would be. This baby would be God. All other babies were born in sin. This baby would have no sin.

This wonderful Person, the Son of God, was coming to save man from his sins. He could have in some way come down to earth and stepped out of a cloud and made Himself known to man, but that wasn't

God's plan. No, it was God's plan for the Lord Jesus to come and be born into the world as a little

baby and to have a body just like we have. That was God's plan. "The angel said to Mary. "For with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37).

How beautifully Mary answered, "Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." Do you know what she was saying? She was saying. "I'm the Lord's servant. I'll do and be what God wants." Then the angel left Mary and she was alone. Now Mary knew what the angel meant when he said that she was highly favoured. She had been chosen to be the mother of the Son of God. She was indeed greatly blessed. But, that blessing did not bring the greatest joy to Mary, I'm sure. How joyful she must have been to know that at last the Saviour who had been promised for so long a time was coming!

God wanted someone else to know that He was sending His Son into the world. Can you guess who? It was no other than the carpenter Joseph, who would some day be Mary's husband. One night while Joseph was sleeping he had a dream. Just as the angel came to Mary so the angel came to Joseph in his dream. The angel spoke to Joseph in words meaning this, "Joseph, Mary is to have a Son. But her Son, Joseph, shall not be your son. He shall be the Son of God. You are to call his name Jesus for He shall save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, God with us" (Matt. 1:18-25).

Has this Jesus saved you from your sins? The little baby, the Son of God, come down from heaven, was one day to die on the cross. And when He died on the cross He died not for His sins, for He had none, but for yours and mine. When He died on the cross He shed His precious blood. That blood can wash away our sins. When our sins are washed away we can have fellowship with God. More than that, He gives us a new life that never shall end. And then we can know that some day we shall be with Him in heaven.

Will you believe in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour from your sins? Will you trust Him to wash away your sins and to give you life that never shall end?

Suppose Charlie had refused to let the lifeguard save him. You know what would have happened. Charlie would have been lost. He would have perished. He would have died. Charlie didn't do that. He let the guard take him and save him so that he might live here on the earth.

The Lord Jesus wants to save you, not for just a few years on earth, but to be with Him in heaven forever. He wants to save you from your sins. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting live" (John 3:16).

Jesus has come to save you. Will you let Him? If you will, just say, "Dear Lord, I do believe that Jesus died to save me. I do accept the Lord Jesus just now as my own Saviour."

LESSON TWO

ROYAL GIFT

Scripture: Luke 1:36-56; 2:1-7

Memory Verse: 2 Cor. 9:15

TELLING THE STORY

When the angel Gabriel spoke to Mary about the Son she was to have, he knew that she would want to share this wonderful news with someone. He told Mary that her cousin Elisabeth was going to have a son too. Oh, Mary rejoiced to head that. She could go to Elisabeth and together they could praise God for what He was going to do for them. For Elisabeth to have a son seemed almost impossible for she was an old woman. For Mary to have a Son who would be God and man seemed really (or altogether) impossible. But, Mary knew that the angel had spoken the truth when he said (Luke 1:37), "For with God nothing shall be impossible!"

Mary kept very busy those days making preparations to go to visit Elisabeth and Zacharias. In the meantime, you remember, an angel told Joseph about it in a dream. Mary would have a Son who would be the Saviour of the world.

Then the day came when all the preparations had been finished and Mary was ready to begin her trip. Elisabeth lived in the hill country in a city of Juda. It would take Mary some time to get there. But Mary "made haste" for she was anxious indeed to see cousin Elisabeth. When Mary arrived at the house of Elisabeth and Zacharias she went in and saluted Elisabeth. We would say she greeted Elisabeth. She probably said,

"My dear Elisabeth, how glad I am to see you again."

As soon as Elisabeth heard Mary's voice she was filled with the Holy Spirit. You remember that the Holy Spirit is God and that He is One of the Three Persons that is God. Elisabeth began to speak very loudly. She really began to sing a beautiful song or hymn of praise. "Blessed art thou among women" (Luke 1:42). Mary was to have the privilege that no other woman would have. She was to be the mother of our Saviour. "How is it that the mother of my Lord should come to me" (Luke 1:43), Elisabeth continued. The Son that Mary was to have was also to be Elisabeth's Saviour. Elisabeth was greatly honored to have Mary visit her. Elisabeth finished her beautiful song, "Blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord" (Luke 1:45). Yes, Mary had believed what the Lord had told her through the angel Gabriel and God would do everything that He had said that He would do.

Mary's heart was overflowing with joy too. She began to sing a song of praise. She said or sang, "My soul doth magnify (praise) the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour" (Luke 1:46,47). Mary was praising God because God was sending His Son to be the Saviour of the world, her Saviour too, and she, a humble maiden, was to be His mother.

For three months Mary stayed with Elisabeth. What a happy time they had together, praising God and looking forward to the day when His Son would be born. Three months is a long visit, and Mary had to return to Nazareth and Joseph. Six more months passed. We aren't told what took place during that time, but Mary must have spent much time in prayer, talking to God. At the end of six months something very startling happened, something that upset everyone's plans.

"And it came to pass in those days (nearly 2,000 years ago), that there went out a decree (an order) from Caesar Augustus (the ruler of the Roman world), that all the world should be taxed" (Luke 2:1).

To the quiet little town of Nazareth, nestled amongst the hills, the word came. The whole world was being taxed. Every person was to be taxed in his own city. Now Joseph was from the city of David called Bethlehem. He would have to go to Bethlehem to pay his taxes. Perhaps Joseph was working at his carpenter's bench when the word came to him. If he was, he probably put down his tools and said to himself, "I must go right away and tell Mary." Perhaps Joseph said something like this to Mary: "Mary, what do you think I have just heard? All the world is being taxed. Every one is to be taxed in his own city. That means that we must make a journey to Bethlehem. I am truly sorry, Mary. It will be a hard journey for you to make, but you see, we must go."

It was a long journey to Bethlehem from Nazareth, nearly eighty miles. Such a trip in those days of long ago would take four or five days or even longer. They would have to walk or ride a donkey.

And so Joseph and Mary started out. Behind them stood the shabbily built stone huts of Nazareth. Before them was the road to Bethlehem.

How very, very weary they must have been when they reached Bethlehem. Maybe Joseph said to Mary, "Do not be troubled. Soon we shall be settled comfortably in an inn."

Perhaps Mary murmured, "I'll be so glad to rest."

For all we know, they may have gone to the inn right away. Joseph may have said, "I'll try this one." The city was already filled with people who had come from all parts of the country to Bethlehem. When Joseph went to see about a place to stay, he was greatly disappointed. There was no room in the inn for them. There was room in the stable. Perhaps Joseph said, "Let us stop here; it will be a place to rest."

Now Mary and Joseph were settled in Bethlehem. Bethlehem is a beautiful little town. There are avenues of great oak trees, gardens of grapes. There are orchards and grainfields around it. God had allowed the law to be passed to bring them to Bethlehem, for in His promises the Saviour was to be born in Bethlehem. In Micah 5:2 God said, "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from old, from everlasting." God was speaking of His Son who would be born as a baby on earth many years after. He had been from everlasting. He had been in

the beginning as the second person of the Trinity. Now, in this verse God says that the Son should come out of Bethlehem.

Yes, it was in Bethlehem one night, a night such as the world had never known, that the Son of God was born in a stable. God had come to be with man. One of the names of Jesus is, Emmanuel, which means, "God with us." Joseph and Mary were to call Him "Jesus" (which means Saviour) for He would save the people from their sins. What God had said would take place in Bethlehem had come to pass.

Mary, the loving mother, took the Baby, who was her Saviour also, and wrapped Him in long bands of cloth, called swaddling clothes, and laid Him on some soft hay in a manger (Luke 2:7). How adoringly she looked upon Him, that beautiful Baby, the infant Jesus. He was God's gift to the whole world.

APPLYING THE TRUTH

All Mary would have to do to have eternal life would be to accept God's Gift. No doubt she had done that and rejoicing with her stood Joseph, for he too, must have received God's Son as his Saviour. What did it mean for them to accept God's Gift? It meant that He would take away their sins and that some day they would go to a wonderful place, a special place which God had prepared for them and for all who trust in the Lord Jesus. In heaven there would be no poverty, no sickness, no sadness, no tears, no sorrows. Heaven is a place of joy and delight. There in heaven they would be with the Lord Jesus forever.

What about you boys and girls? Wouldn't you like to receive God's Gift? Receiving God's Gift, the Lord Jesus, will make you ready for heaven for He will take away your sins. We have just heard today about His coming into the world. But, one day, He allowed wicked and cruel men to nail Him on a cross, to crucify Him. That day, He was taking the punishment for your sins and mine, yes, for the sins of the whole world. The Father laid all our sins upon Jesus that day. But although He died for the sins of all, all are not saved. Only those are saved who have received Him into their lives. (John 1:12) Jesus did everything; all we have to do is to take what He offers us. Some of you are trying to get to heaven by being good. Do you think that by being good you can earn a place in heaven?

One cold winter day, the story is told, a poor woman stood at the window of a king's greenhouse (a house where plants are grown in the winter time), looking at a cluster of beautiful grapes, which she wanted for her sick child. She went home to her spinning wheel and when she had earned two pesos, she offered it to the gardener for the grapes. He would not take the money, but ordered her to go away. The poor woman went home and wondered how she could earn some more money. Then she noticed the blanket on her bed. She took the blanket to the pawnshop and with the money she earned from pawning the blanket she returned to the gardener and offered him, this time, fifteen pesos. But, oh, the gardener became very, very angry. "Go away immediately," he shouted to the poor woman. As she was starting out the door, the princess came in. She saw the angry gardener and the poor woman in tears. "Tell me, gardener, what is the meaning of all this?" she asked. When the gardener finished the story, the princess turned to the poor woman and said, "My dear woman, you have made a mistake. My father is not a merchant but a king; his business is not to sell but to give." As she said this she plucked the cluster of grapes from the vine and dropped it into the woman's apron.

The poor woman had been trying to buy the grapes, but no money could buy them. They weren't for sale. The king's daughter was glad to give them to the woman. Do you see, children? God is not a merchant. He is not trying to sell you a place in heaven. Neither can you earn it by trying to be good. His business is not to sell, but to give.

Won't you just now take the Lord Jesus as your Saviour? How did the woman get the grapes? She just took them and thanked the princess, I'm sure. Just take the Lord Jesus and thank the Heavenly Father for His gift.

"Dear Heavenly Father, I take the Lord Jesus now as my Saviour. I thank Thee that He has taken away my sins and that I am going to heaven."

"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift" (2 Cor. 9:15).

AFTER THE INVITATION: Now that some of you children have been saved, you have accepted God's Gift, what are you going to talk about? Is that a funny question? Did you notice in our lesson today what Mary and Elisabeth talked about when they were together? Was it about all Elisabeth's friends in Nazareth? Was it about the terrible things that were happening? Were they grumbling and complaining about their lot? No, both of them praised the Lord. They sang hymns of praise. We need to have Christian friends and to have good times with them. Shall we do as Mary and Elisabeth did? Let us magnify (praise) the Lord and rejoice in God our Saviour.

LESSON THREE THE SONG OF THE ANGELS

Scripture: Luke 2:8-35

Memory Verse: Luke 2:11

CAPTURING THE INTEREST

Has the President ever come to your city? It was an important time wasn't it? I know of a time when Someone came that was more important than anyone else in the whole world. This Person is greater than any king or president or anyone else. Surely you know of whom I'm speaking. The Son of God! Boys and girls, when the Son of God left the glory of heaven and came to the town of Bethlehem, that was one of the greatest events the world has even known. You were not there to see that important event. I wasn't there either. But God's Word tells us exactly what took place. There weren't any parades. No bands were playing. What did happen? It was like this.

TELLING THE STORY

When the Lord Jesus was born in the lowly stable, His mother, Mary, took Him and lovingly, tenderly laid Him on the soft sweet hay in the manger. The glory of the Lord overshadowed the Son of God. Mary and Joseph gazed upon Him full of wonder, full of joy.

Not far from this scene, out in the fields, there were shepherds watching over their sheep. The night was beautiful, clear and silent. The shepherds were quiet. It may have been that they had built a fire and were gathered around it.

Suddenly, out from heaven, a glorious angel, all bright and shining, appeared before them. "And the glory of the Lord shone round about them" (Luke 2:9). The shepherds had never seen an angel before. They had never seen such radiant light. They were afraid. Perfectly still they must have stood gazing into the heavens, not uttering a sound.

The angel spoke to them, "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people" (Luke 2 :10). The angel was bringing good news. The news would bring great joy to the shepherds. But it wasn't for the shepherds alone. It was for all people.

The angel continued speaking, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). Oh, the shepherds knew what the angel was talking about. All their lives they had heard that a Saviour was to be born. And to think that an angel had come to tell them that this Saviour had been born in the city of David. That wasn't very far from where they were. Bethlehem was close by. How their hearts must have thrilled to know that. But the angel had more to tell them. "And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger" (Luke 2:12). The angel was telling them a way by which they could tell which baby the Saviour was. The babe would be wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. That was their clue.

Do you suppose the shepherds wondered that God's own Son should be born in a stable with animals? God's own Son born in a stable! How strange! Strange, too, that an angel from God should come to tell them, poor shepherds.

But before they had time to think about these things suddenly the heaven was filled with hosts of glistening bright angels. Together they said, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2 :14). How beautiful the angels' voices must have sounded!

After that they all disappeared. No longer did the shepherds watch their flocks. They said, "Let us go even now unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us." All of them wanted to go and see. Can you picture the shepherds going to the city of Bethlehem? They "made haste." They ran as fast as they could. God told

them about the Saviour that they had been waiting and looking for ever since they were little children.

They found Mary and Joseph that night in the stable. Yes, there was the Babe lying in a manger. As they stood in the stable they looked not at Mary or Joseph. They looked at the baby Jesus. Although the Bible does not tell us what they did, they must have knelt down near Him and thanked God for sending His son to be their saviour from sin. His body was just like any other baby's. He had a mother just like we have. She was close by and she loved her baby just like any other mother would. But, this Baby's Father was God. He didn't have a father like you and I have. Joseph wasn't His father. Joseph would look after Mary and her Baby but the Baby did not belong to Joseph. God was the Father of the Baby Jesus. So although He had a mother, and although He had a body like ours. He was God. He was a holy Baby. Never would He sin. Never would He do anything wrong.

Yes, this Baby was God and at the same time He was man. It's hard for us to understand how such a thing could be. He was a Baby just like us and yet was God, without sin. Dear children, God has not asked us to understand. He has told us and asked us to believe. Aren't we glad that we can do that?

Oh, it had been wonderful for the shepherds to see the angels and to hear them, but it was far more wonderful to see this wondrous Baby, the Saviour of the world. Now what would they do? They wanted to tell everyone about Him. They had to tell people about this new born Saviour. As they left the stable and started down the streets of Bethlehem back to their fields and their sheep, they stopped nearly everyone to tell them. It was good news, glad tidings indeed. Too wonderful to keep! They had to tell. "And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning the child" (Luke 2:17).

When the Baby, the son of God. was eight days old, He was named. It was usually on the eighth day that the Jewish children were named. Mary did not have to decide upon a name for her Baby. God had told Mary and her husband months ago what His name was to be. He was Jesus- for He would save His people from their sins.

Not many days later, Mary together with her husband, Joseph, took her son Jesus to the city of Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as the Jews always did with their babies. That day there was someone else in the Temple in Jerusalem, a very old man whose name was Simeon. Simeon was a man who loved and feared God just as Mary and Joseph feared God. He was just and devout. One time the Holy Spirit (the third Person of the Trinity, you remember) had told Simeon that before he died he would see the Saviour, the Messiah that was to come into the world. When Mary and Joseph walked into the Temple with Baby Jesus, Simeon was there. Right away Simeon knew that this Baby was the Saviour. Oh, how full of joy he was. He took the Baby in his arms and said, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation" (Luke 3:29, 30). Simeon was saying, "Lord, now I've seen the Saviour, the One who brings salvation. Now I am ready to die. I am ready to go to heaven now because I have seen Jesus, who shall save His people from their sins." Simeon was ready to die and go to heaven peacefully, happily because he believed in Jesus as his Saviour Who had come to save him from his sins.

APPLYING THE TRUTH

Heaven is the most wonderful place, more wonderful than anyone knows or can tell. God lives in heaven. To go to heaven is to be with God. In heaven there is no pain, no sorrow. no tears, no hunger, no thirst. It's all joy and peace and gladness. It's a place of beauty, more beautiful than we can imagine or try to imagine.

We think of gold and precious stones as beautiful. The streets of heaven are paved with gold. Many precious stones help to make heaven beautiful.

There is one thing that isn't in heaven. There is no sin. There is no evil or badness or wickedness. Are you ready for heaven, boys and girls? What about your sins? God's Word tells us that all have sinned (Rom. 3:23). What about the lies you have told? What about the bad words you have said? What about the cheating you did in school? What about the many times you have been disobedient to your Parents? What about the times you took things that didn't belong

to you? You cannot go to heaven when you have done things like that.

If your sins have not been taken care of, boys and girls, do not be sad, for there is good news for you. The good news that was told the shepherds was not just for them, it was for all people. It was for you.

You can get rid of your sins the same way Simeon did, for their is just one way - just believing on the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. He died for your sins on Calvary. All our sins were laid upon the Lord Jesus when He died on the cross. The blood that He shed was for our sin. Don't you today want Him to take away your sins?

Some of you are very poor and are wondering if you can come to Jesus. Oh, remember that this Saviour was born in a stable among animals. He chose to be. He could have been born in the most magnificent palace in the world, but He chose to be poor. You can come to Him.

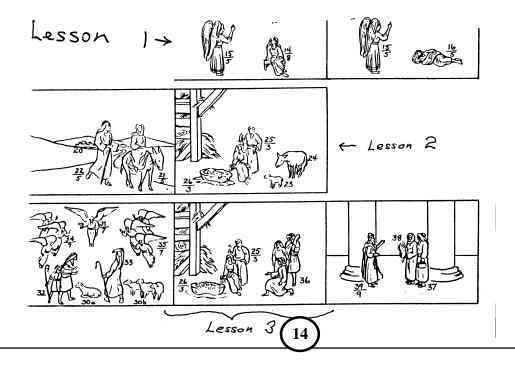
Some of you may not be poor. Maybe you don't like to think that the Saviour was Poor and born in a stable. Boys and girls, His Coming into the world was heralded by hosts of bright angels. Yours was not like that. You come to this Saviour too. The good news is for all people, for whosoever will may come, rich or poor. When the angels told the good news to the shepherds they made haste to see Jesus. They ran because they were so eager to see Him.

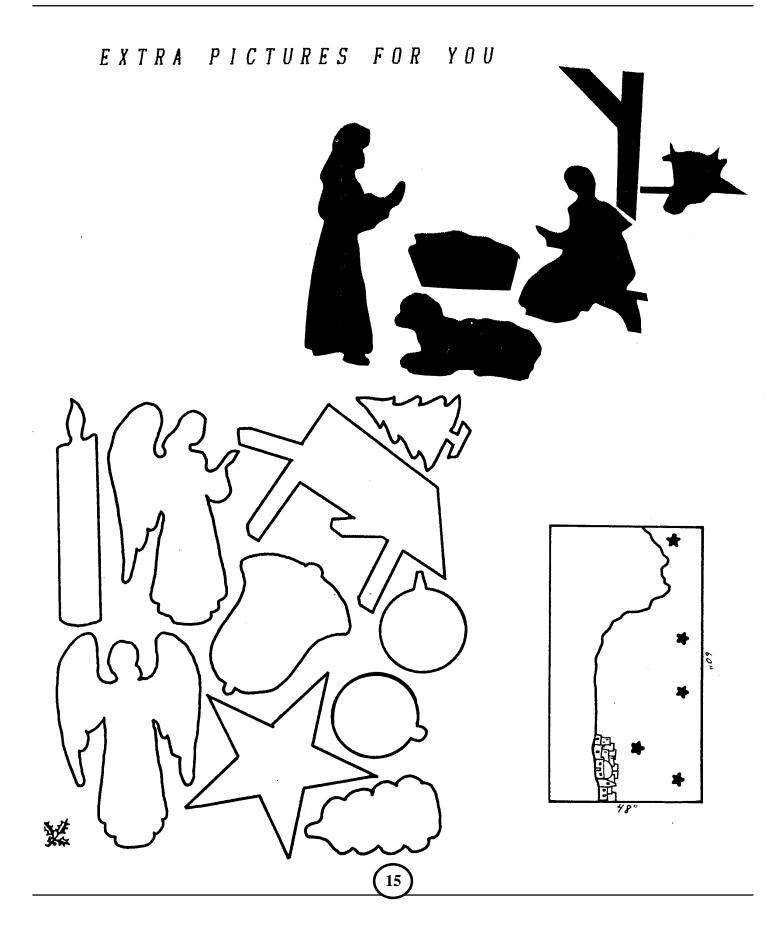
Boys and girls, you have heard the good news about Jesus. Have you made haste to take Him as your Saviour? Oh, we should feel as though we can't wait to take Him as our Saviour. If you want to, won't you say now as we close our eyes and bow our heads, "Dear God, I take the Lord Jesus now as my Saviour. I believe He died on the cross for me. I thank Thee so much. Amen."

<u>AFTER THE INVITATION</u>: After the shepherds has seen Jesus they wanted to tell everybody about Him. Their hearts were so full of love for Him. They spread abroad all that they had seen and heard.

There was someone else who saw the Lord Jesus in the Temple at Jerusalem. Her name was Anna. She was a holy woman. Oh, how joyous she was when she saw the Lord Jesus. She thanked the Lord for the Saviour. They she spoke of Him, the Lord Jesus, to all them that looked for the redemption in Jerusalem.

Some of you have just taken the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. Are you going to tell others about Him? Anna spoke of the Lord Jesus. The shepherds told of Him to all whom they saw. If you have believed on Jesus, tell others about Him! Go back to your home and tell your family and friends about Jesus. Go to your school glorifying and praising God.





COLORS OF CHRISTMAS

Seasonal

MATERIALS NEEDED

As an object lesson: a small Christmas tree, prepared to it can stand on a table; seven Christmas balls - one each of gold, black, red, silver, blue, white and green; a bell; and an angel.

The ornaments are to be placed on the tree as you mention them.

For the flannelboard: a piece of green flannel or felt approx. 16 x 18 inches. Fold the piece of cloth lengthwise and cut out your tree. (or use suede paper for tree and glue to a board)

For memory and attendance aids: a variety of colored construction paper. Cut several ornaments of each color. Roughen the back of the construction paper so it will stick to the board. Children may putan ornament on the board as they come to class, or say their verse.

THE LESSON

When you decorate your Christmas tree, do the ornaments and colors ever make you think of something else? Today we are going to decorate this tree with beautiful colored ornaments, and each one will remind us of something special.

This gold reminds us of Heaven, God's home. The Bible tells us that "the street of the city was pure gold." (Rev. 21:21) And in heaven there is no sin, no sickness, no tears or darkness. For God is pure and holy and no sin shall ever come into Heaven (Rev. 21:27). The gold ball also reminds us that the Lord Jesus, God's Son, lived in Heaven before He came to this earth to live. Like God, He is pure and holy. Even when He was born on this earth and had a body like ours, He was without sin (Heb. 4:15).

Oh, here is an angel. God sent angels to several different people to tell them something about the birth of the Lord Jesus before He was born. An angel told Mary, who was to be the mother of the Baby Jesus, that she was going to have a son and 16



that He would be different from any other baby that was ever born - for His Father is God.

Why, look at this. Here is a black one! Now, how did that one get in here? This one always seems to keep popping us. You see, black reminds us of sin. Sin is doing wrong things - lying, cheating, stealing, being mean, disobeying, saying or thinking naughty things - anything that isn't pure and holy, as God is pure and holy, is sin. The Bible says that God is light and that in Him is no darkness at all (1 John 1:5). In the dark, we can't see what we are doing, and we're likely to something wrong - fall down steps, bump into something, get our clothes on wrong side out. So when we have sin in our hearts, it's like being in darkness, and we do things that are wrong.

The Bible tells us that we have all sinned (Rom. 3:23), an "there is none that doeth good, no not one." (Rom. 3:12) And since no sin can come into Heaven, we couldn't ever go to live with God, but would have to live in darkness forever and ever.

God loves us and He doesn't want us to live in the darkness of sin forever and ever. So He

sent the Lord Jesus to earth to do something about our sins. That was another message an angel brought. Even before Jesus was born, the angel said to Joseph, Mary's husband, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." (Matt. 1:21)

And on the night that Jesus was born on this earth, an angel appeared to some shepherds and told them that the One who had come to save people from their sins had been born. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

And how does the Lord Jesus save us from our sins? Here is a red ball that will remind us of that. After the Lord Jesus grew to be a man, people who didn't believe in Him nailed him to a cross. They put him to death just as they did criminals in those days. The Lord Jesus let them do it, for that was why He came to earth. That was the way He did something about our sins. The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). That means the payment for our sins is death. And this kind of death means separation from God, or living in darkness forever and ever. The Lord Jesus came to earth just to pay for our sins - to die in our place.

Just think, the Lord Jesus loved us enough to die for us. "But God commendeth (showed) His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). When He was nailed to the cross, the Lord Jesus shed His blood; and so the red reminds us that the Lord Jesus, God's Son, died to pay for our sins. And this silver ball will help us to remember too, how much is cost the Lord Jesus to pay for our sins. We use silver, or other kinds of money, to pay for things we buy. But the Lord Jesus paid for our sins with His life, or as the Bible says "with the precious blood of Christ" (1 Peter 1:18). "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

The Bible also tells us about something wonderful that happened after Jesus died, and this pretty blue ball will help us remember about that. In 1 Cor. 15:3,4 we read, "...Christ died for our sins ..and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day." Yes, the Lord Jesus, God's Son, didn't stay dead. He arose from the grave, alive again. And do you know where He is today? Shortly after He rose from the grave, He left this earth. He went right up through the sky, that looks blue to us, and disappeared out of sight. He went back to heaven, where He is today.

And here is a pure white ball that will remind us of two things. It will remind us that our Saviour, Jesus Christ is pure and holy and no sin can be where He is. But it will also remind us that if we believe in him, if we receive Him as our Saviour, He will cleanse our hearts of all sin. Then someday we can go to Heaven to be with Him forever and ever. The Bible says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved". (Acts 16:31) Next, we'll put up a green ball. Green reminds us of growing. When we see grass and leaves that are all nice and green, we know the plants are growing. The Bible tells us that the Lord Jesus grew "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:52). That is, He not only grew up in His body, but He learned how a child of God should live in this world, how to please God, and live so that others could see He was a child of God.

And that is what God wants us to do. If we have received the Lord Jesus as our Saviour, we too must live the way God wants us to. We don't grow up all at once in this new life God gives

us. We grow up as God's children the same as we grow in our bodies - a little at a time. For our bodies to grow, we must have good food. And to grow in our new life, that is, to know God's will and obey Him, to do the things that please God, we must learn what God says in His Word, and obey it. The Bible is our spiritual food.

Here is a bell. Usually, the ringing of a bell tells us something. We have bells at school to tell us when it is time to go to our classes, or time to go home. In many places churches have bells to tell the people when it is time to go to church.

Remember we learned that the angel told the shepherds, who were out in the fields caring for their sheep, that the Saviour had been born? They went to the place where the angel said the Baby would be. And how happy they were to find him, just as the angel had said. The shepherds were so glad to know that the Saviour had come that they told everyone they saw about Him. They were like the bells, ringing out the good news. And the Lord Jesus wants us to tell others the good news that He came to take away our sins.

My, isn't this a pretty tree now that it is all decorated? But what is a tree without gifts? That is what we like best, isn't it? But there is a gift that is better than any we could find under the tree. "Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift" (2 Cor. 9:15). This gift is so wonderful we can hardly describe it. This tree looks lovely now but what about after Christmas? It will be dead and good for nothing but to be burned in a fire. But this tree can remind us of another tree. It was the tree on which God hung His perfect gift for us. The cross on which the Lord Jesus died was made from a tree, and the Bible says about the Lord Jesus "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24). We don't know what became of the tree on which the Lord Jesus

died. Maybe it was burned or destroyed some other way. But we do know that the Lord Jesus, who died on the tree, could not be destroyed. He is alive today. And He wants to be your Saviour. If you want the gifts that are placed under the tree for you, you must receive, or take them. And if you want to have your sins forgiven, you must the Lord Jesus Christ as God's gift to you. If you have never done this before, you can right now.

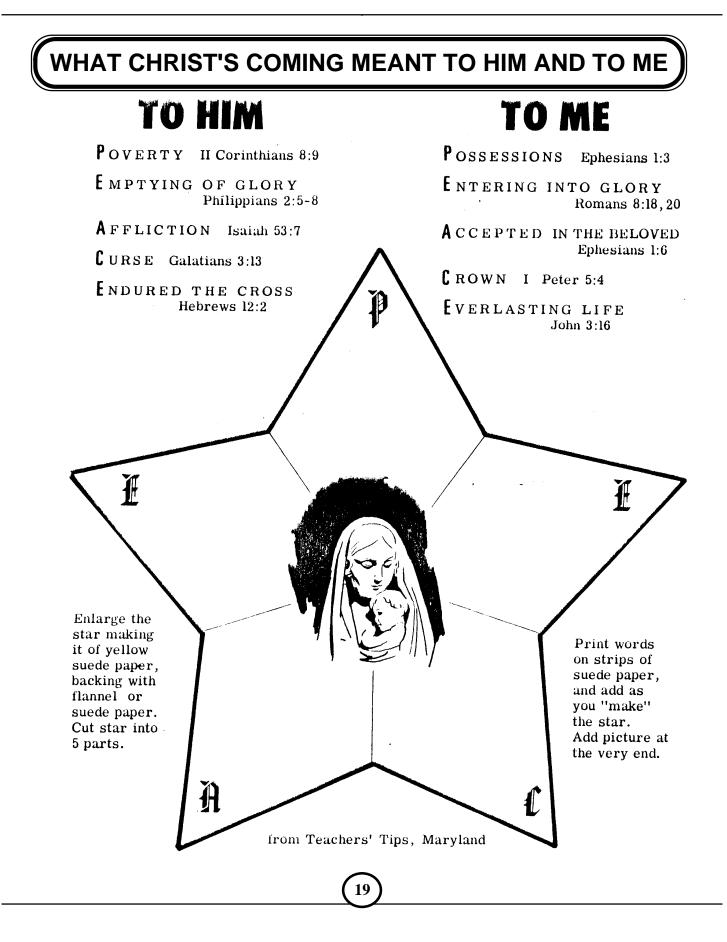
NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Close with prayer, praying for the boys and girls who have received Christ as their Saviour, that they may grow in Him, and be witnesses for Him. Pray for those who have not yet received Him, that they will do so now.

In giving the invitation you might have those who want to receive Christ raise their hands. Make it clear, however, that this is just to let you know they want to, so you can help them. Then guide them in a prayer such as, "Lord Jesus, I know I'm a sinner, but I am sorry for my sins. I do receive You right now as my own Saviour. Thank you for dying for me. Amen."

Deal with each child personally, to be sure he understands the way of salvation and makes, or has made, personal application.

Let the child express himself, telling what has happened and why. You may need to guide him with questions, or go over some point again, to be sure he knows it is what the Lord Jesus did for him, and through his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, that his sins are forgiven. He must know that he is a sinner (and admit it), that sin must be punished, but that God loves him, and the Lord Jesus died to take the punishment for his sins. And he should know that the Lord Jesus rose again and is a living Saviour. Also give the child assurance (Heb. 13:5).





GOSPEL BELLS (GOSPEL GO AND TELL) CHRISTMAS

PREPARATION:

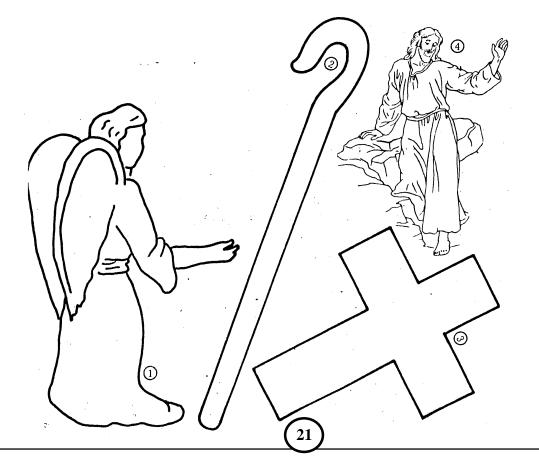
Using pattern (or enlarge if necessary) cut out a bell from card stock. Figures can usually be found in magazines or old Sunday School papers. If these can't be found trace the figures as suggested here and color each figure and back with flannel. On back of the bell paste an envelope with the flap cut off. This envelope will serve as a place to keep your figures as you tell the story. Put wording on bell. (Gospel Go and Tell)

LESSON:

The bells of Bethlehem did not ring to welcome the Lord of Glory when He came there as a little baby. But Gospel Bells have been ringing ever since because He came! Here is a Christmas Bell. It is pretty to look at, but it has a message for us too. Instead of ringing "ding-dong! ding-dong!" this Christmas bell is saying, "GO and TELL!"

1. (Pull out angel) The angels came to tell on that first Christmas night. What did they tell? "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord."

- 2. (Pull out shepherd's crook) Of whom does this speak? The Shepherds. They heard the angel's message. Did they keep it to themselves? No, they told everyone they met. What did they tell? "Unto you is born this day..." Jesus is the Saviour
- 3. (use cross) And He is the living, risen Lord
- 4. (use figure of Christ). Is He your Saviour? Is He your Lord? Have you given yourself to Him so that He may live in you, and make you what He wants you to be? If you have, then the Christmas bell is saying to you, "GO and TELL! Go into all the world
- 5. (world) and tell of Jesus!" Could you tell the Christmas story to someone else, and then say, "I'm glad Jesus is my Saviour. Is He your Saviour?" Perhaps someone is here today who has never received the Lord Jesus and who has not been born again into God's family. If you are not sure that you are His child, and you want to be sure, come to me when we are dismissed and we will look into God's Word together.





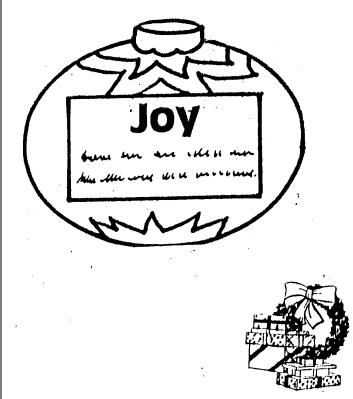
SUGGESTED WORDS AND VERSES:

GOD'S GIFTS CHRISTMAS

Use this idea near the beginning of class. It will add to your atmosphere all during class. Take a 2-4 foot tall artificial tree to class.

Make 8 - 10 colorful paper ornaments using construction paper in double thickness. Punch a hole in the top of each one. Label each one with a word that tells one of God's gifts to us. Type the verse that goes with it on a piece of white paper and paste it on the paper ornament. Decorate the edges of the ornaments with glue and glitter.

Put an ornament hook in each one. Pass these out to individuals as they come into class. Call for the Scripture verses after the first song. The child will come up front, state the gift, read the verse, then hang the ornaments on the tree.



Some of these, such as correction and sleep, could provide some good discussion opportunities. Ask the children "Why do we call correction a gift from God? Why do we call sleep a gift from God?

BROUGHT BACK TO GOD

MEMORY VERSE: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8

Can you imagine what it would be like to look our and see nothing but space? No clouds, no sun, no moon, no stars - not even the earth. This is the way it was before God made the worlds - just space, and more space.

HOLD UP BIBLE

The Bible, God's Word, tells us that in the beginning God created, or made, the heaven (that means the sun, moon and stars) and the earth. God made them and put them in space.

HOLD UP TREFOIL, SHOWING THE WORD "GOD"

The Bible is the only way we have of knowing about our God who created, or made all things. It tells us that He is one God. The Bible also tells us that this one God is eternal. That means He always has been and always will be. He never began and He never will end. He is eternal. Our eternal God not only made the earth. He made man to live on the earth. We read in the Bible that God said, "Let us make man in our own image" - let us make man like us. To whom do you suppose God was talking? He said "Let us make man.." God's Word tells us (TURN TREFOIL AROUND SHOWING WORDS FATHER, SON, HOLY SPIRIT) that God is one God, but He is three persons. We say He is a Trinity, which means three, yet one. In your own family there are your father, your mother, and you. Is each of you a family? No. You belong to one family with three persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We cannot understand all of this, but I believe it because God's Word says it is true.

WHITE WORLD SYMBOL

Now how do you think God made the heaven and the earth if there was nothing but space? God made everything just by speaking. He spoke, and it was made. The Bible tells us "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." (Heb. 11:3) Everything God made was perfect.

WHITE HEART SYMBOL

God made the heaven and the earth out of nothing. Then God made man from the dust of the earth and breathed into him the breath of life. God made a wife for the man. Their names were Adam and Eve. And like everything God made, they were perfect. God made a special home for Adam and Eve called the Garden of Eden. It was a wonderful place with flowers and many trees of delicious fruit from which they could eat. In the midst of this garden God placed two trees that were different from the others. One was the tree of life, and the other was called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God knew that if Adam and Eve ate of this fruit they would know evil as well as good, and they would no longer be perfect. The Garden of Eden was a happy place. Adam and Eve loved each other, and they loved God, who was a loving Father to them.

But there was a certain person who did not want Adam and Eve to love and obey God. This person was Satan, the enemy of God. Satan knew that if he could tempt Adam and Eve to disobey God and eat the fruit, they would know evil. They would stop loving God, and they would die. Has your mouth watered when you saw a big piece of Mocha cake with lots of icing and flowers on it? That's probably what happened to Eve one day when Satan told her to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Satan lied to her and said, "You shall not die. When you eat this fruit you will be wise, and will know good and evil." (Gen. 3:4,5) The fruit looked so delicious. She ate some of the fruit, and she gave some to Adam and he ate also.

BLACK HEART SYMBOL

Their bodies didn't die right away, although some day they would. But they died spiritually. This means that their spirit was no longer like God's. They couldn't talk with God as they had, and they wouldn't like to do his will. In disobeying God they had let sin come into their hearts, and it was like darkness between them and God. They were no longer perfect. They were sinners.

BLACK WORLD SYMBOL

God did not stop loving Adam and Eve, but He could not let them stay in the Garden of Eden

where the tree of life was. So they had to leave their lovely home. And not only were Adam and Eve no longer perfect, but God put a curse on the earth itself, so it was no longer perfect. Thorns and weeds come up, and now Adam had to work very hard to raise his food.

Later God gave Adam and Eve two sons. Do you suppose these two boys whose names were Cain and Abel, were perfect like Adam and Eve had been before they sinned? No, these two boys were sinners too. When God had made the animals, trees and people, He had said that everything should bring forth after its own kind. That means that papaya seeds would grow into papaya, and goats would always have goats. Everything would bear its own kind. So because Adam and Eve were now sinners, these two children and all their other children were sinners.

And all people have been born sinners from the time Adam sinned until now. The Bible says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23) "There is none righteous (good) no, not one? (Rom. 3:10). What do you suppose our pure and holy God would do with the people now? Would He say, "I won't have anything to do with them?" No, God couldn't do that because God is love. God already had a plan that He had made even before He made the world, for He knew what would happen. And when He put Adam and Eve, or anyone else could do nothing to take away their own sins, so God promised them that some day He would send a Saviour.

RED CROSS SYMBOL

They one day, just as God had promised, the Saviour came. He was born on this earth as a little baby. But he wasn't like any other baby that had ever been born. He was God the Son who had lived in heaven with God the Father from the beginning. He was the one to whom God the Father had said, "Let us make man in our image."

And this was the plan: God the Son would come to earth to save people from their sin. And how did He do this? God said the soul that sinneth it must die spiritual death that means being separated from God forever. God the Son came to this earth as a person, like you and me, so he could die in our place, taking the punishment for us. He lived among the people, who were sinners, yet He was holy and without sin. Wherever He went He told the people He was the Son of God who had come to be their Saviour and forgive their sin. He even worked great miracles to prove to the people He was the Son of God. But the people did not believe even then.

Finally they took Him to the hill called Calvary, just outside the city of Jerusalem, and nailed Him on a cross to die. He loved the people so much He was willing to take the punishment for their sins and die for those who nailed Him to the cross. He died for the sins of all the people of the whole world. He died for yours sins and mine. There on the cross all of the sins of all the people of the whole world were put on the Lord Jesus. All our sins of lying, hating, fighting, disobeying, cheating, and pride were put on the Lord Jesus. While He hung on the cross, a great darkness came on the earth, like spiritual death, separating Him from God the Father. For God is holy and can't look on sin.

EMPTY TOMB SYMBOL

Some of His friends took the body of the Lord Jesus and buried it in a grave. But on the third day He rose from the dead, proving that He was God the Son, and that He had power over life and death.

WHITE HEART SYMBOL

Now because God the Son had taken the punishment for the sins of the world, God the Father could forgive anyone his sins and give him everlasting life if he would believe in the Lord Jesus. The Bible says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) Not long after the Lord Jesus rose from the dead, He went back to heaven.

POINT TO THE HOLY SPIRIT ON THE TREFOIL

And He sent God the Holy Spirit to live in the hearts of all who believe in Him. Before our Lord left the earth, He had promised that He would never leave those who believed in Him. While on this earth, the Lord Jesus had a body just like ours, and He could not be everywhere. But because God the Holy Spirit is spirit, He can live in the hearts of all of us who

believe. He dwells in our hearts to comfort and help us. And He teaches us how to please God.

GREEN WORLD SYMBOL

heart and be cleansed from sin.

Many, many people have believed in the Lord Jesus and have had their sins forgiven. Yet the earth still is not perfect. Some day the Lord Jesus will come back to the earth. He will destroy Satan's works, and again the earth will be perfect as it was before sin came into it. The earth must wait for Him to take away the curse of sin. But, boys and girls, you must not wait until the Lord Jesus comes back, for then it will be too late. The Bible says -Now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2). Will each one of you bow your head and close your eyes. If you have never before believed that the Lord Jesus died for your sins, you can do it right now. If you have never done this, and you want to, will you stand up right be your seat. Now will those of you who are standing come to the front of the room (or into another room) with me and I will show

you just how you can received the Lord Jesus into your

DIRECTIONS FOR TREFOIL AND SYMBOLS

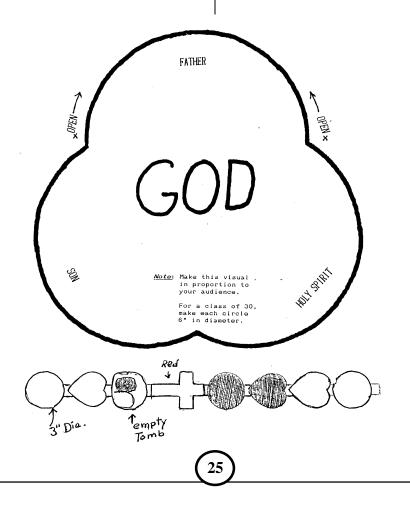
Cut out two trefoils. Place back to back and glue together around edges only of two lower leaves (Son, Holy Spirit).

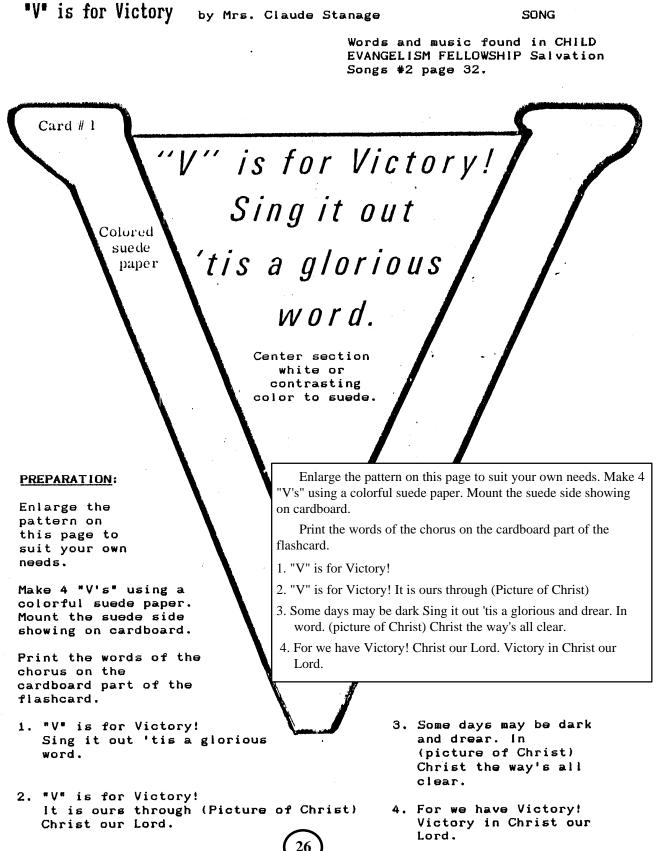
Cut out both sets of symbols. Mount one set equally spaced on 1/2 inch white ribbon, about 20 inches long. Start first symbol three or four inches from the top. Mount last symbol over the bottom end of ribbon.

Symbols should be mounted in the following order: green circle (earth), white heart, black heart, black circle, red cross, empty tomb, white heart, green circle.

Turn ribbon and symbols over and glue to back of the other set of matching symbols.

Fold ribbon of symbols and place inside trefoil, leaving top portion of ribbon out for easy access, to be pulled out as indicated in this lesson.





A LOVE LETTER FROM GOD VALENTINE- ANY TIME

PREPARATION:

Make a large red heart from construction paper. Cut two sections in the middle and fold out like doors. Paste a picture of Christ (about one-half inch larger than the opening) on back of the heart so that His face is seen when the "doors" are open.

Write this address on a blank envelope: Whosoever Any town The World

Take six sheets of plain writing paper and print the following messages on them with colored pencils:

- 1. (red letters on a heart) I LOVE YOU.
- 2. (yellow) "I go to prepare a place for you." "Father, I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am". John 14:2; 17:24.
- 3. (black) "But God commendeth (showed) His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8
- 4. (*red*) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16
- 5. (blue) "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." 1 John 3:1a
- 6. (green) "Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another." 1 John 4:11

THE LESSON: (choose children to read parts)

The mailman's whistle sounded and Rose ran to get the letters. How happy she was to receive a letter from her fiancee. He told her all about the lovely new home that he was building and how wonderful it would be to share it together. Joy and love filled her heart.

Today we have a special letter for the children in our class. The envelope says to "Whosoever" so let's have Marie come and open it for us.

"Thank you, Marie. Tell us what it says."

"I love you."

"Now we'll just open these little doors and see Who loves us. It is the Lord Jesus Christ. He loves all children. We know that this is true because the Bible 27

tells us so. Now we know that our letter, just like the one Rose received, is a love letter. Ours tells us of God's love. Jane, would you like to read the first page of our letter?

"I go to prepare a place for you." Christ spoke these words to His disciples as He explained to them that He was going back to His Father in Heaven. The Bible tells us in Revelation about Heaven. "And the 12 gates were 12 pearls; every several gate was of one pearl; and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass." How beautiful Heaven will be! Also we are told, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain." How wonderful it will be when the things which have made us sad here will be gone forever. The Lord Jesus Christ is there in Heaven with His angels and all who have died believing in Him as their Saviour.

The other words are from a prayer that Jesus prayed and they tell us that He wants those who belong to Him to be with Him in Heaven one day. I think the greatest joy of being in heaven will be to see the Lord Jesus face to face and be with Him forever.

John, you may read the next page. Yes, there is something which cannot enter Heaven. This is sin. We are all sinners. Do you always obey your parents? Have you ever said a naughty word? Do you ever fight with some of the other boys and with your brothers and sisters? Or, maybe like most of us, you have told lies some times, or have cheated or stole something. Yes, we are sinners. Remember what the front page of our letter said -- "I love you."

Now, you may read the next page. (John 3:16) Oh, how much the Lord Jesus loves us. He left that wonderful home in Heaven and came to the world. He came to bear in His body on the cross all our sins and to die for us. The letter tells us why - "That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Where will those who believe on Him spend eternal life some day? Yes, they will be with Him in Heaven, just as He asked in His prayer.

Gilbert, please read the next page of the letter. (1 John 3:1a) Sometimes we don't understand how great God's love really is. As sinners, we come to

the Lord Jesus. We believe on Him and accept Him into our hearts as personal Saviour. He comes into our hearts and pardons our sin. We are made clean by His precious blood and become children of God - born into His family. God becomes our Heavenly Father and we become His sons. What a wonderful love! (You may want to give the invitation here.)

Delia, would you like to read the last page of the letter? (1 John 4:11) Remember all He did for us in love? Doesn't it seem to you that we should live every day to please Him? We should love one another. What does that mean?

Suppose your friend misses school for several days and needs his books and assignments. What will you do? Will you be so busy playing that you forget him, or will you take the books to his home and help him if he needs your help?

Suppose a new girl comes to school. What will you do? Will you stare at her, talk about her hair style and clothes with other girls? Or will you speak to her and be friendly and invite her to your group?

What about at home? Will you help with the dishes cheerfully or will you complain? I am sure you can think of lots of other ways to show God's love every day.

Hasn't this been an interesting letter? Remember, God says, "I love you." Do you love Him? Is Christ the Saviour living in your heart? Do you love others? God is waiting for your answers!

by Mrs. Robert Surpless

JOHN 3:16 - A VALENTINE FROM GOD

In the Bible we find many messages of love from God to us. One that many people know from memory is John 3:16. Use the following lesson to help the children really understand the meaning of this verse.

PREPARATION:

Prepare the verse for flannelboard or print it on a large piece of tag board. Be sure to print the letters for VALENTINE larger than the other letters. To make the visual more effective, print VALENTINE in red and everything else in black or another color.

PRESENTATION:

Put the entire verse on the board, and ask the children if they notice anything. They should recognize the word VALENTINE immediately. Talk briefly about Valentines (have a few to show - comic as well as serious), and point out that the real purpose for sending or giving Valentines is to express our friendship or love to others.

Have the children say John 3:16 with you and then go over each phrase and ask the question or questions given below for each phrase. Add your own questions but try to help the children think of the true meaning of these words so that John 3:16 won't be just a Bible verse they can say from memory (although they should be able to) but that they will really understand what God had to do and what Jesus did and what it means to them now and forever.

teresting	VISUAL	QUESTIONS
ays, "I	For God Who is God?	
Him? Is in your	so lo ${f V}$ ed the world	What does it mean to love? How much is soloved? What is meant by "the world"?
rs? God is	that He g A ve	God gave- <i>explain</i> giving, and who God is.
s! urpless	His onLy begotten Son	What do the words "only begotten" mean? Who is the Son? Where is he now?
ENTINE	that whoso Ever believeth	Who is "whosoever" Is there anyone not included?
D nany	i N Him	Why is believing "in Jesus" so important How do you do this?
bod to us. Now from	should no T	Is this better than might or may not? Is it the same as will or shall not?
se the the	per sh but have	What does it mean not to "perish but have"? Will anyone perish?
d the	everlasti N g	How long is everlasting?
	lifE.	What is everlasting life? Is it the same as human life as we know it now?

BEHOLD YOUR KING

A Palm Sunday Lesson

Preparation: Color crown gold, color jewels red, blue, purple and green. Back crown with suede paper. Cut crown on dotted lines to form a puzzle effect. Crown may be enlarged to suit your needs.

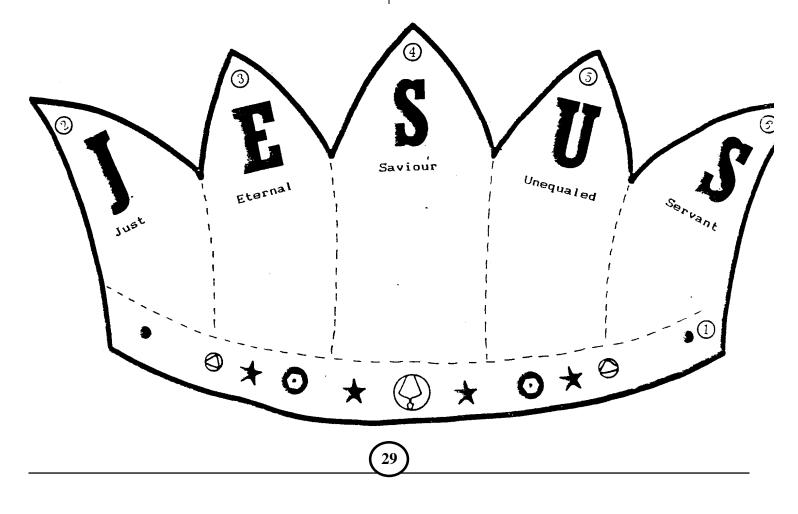
Explanation: Luke 19:29-44 tells the story of Palm Sunday. The people called out, "Blessed be the king that cometh in the name of the Lord." The Lord Jesus was later rejected, but He is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

Let us see what He was like. (Place crown piece by piece on the flannelboard. Crown pieces are numbered on the pattern.) After placing base of crown on the board, put us the point "J" and each successive point to spell **J-E-S-U-S.**

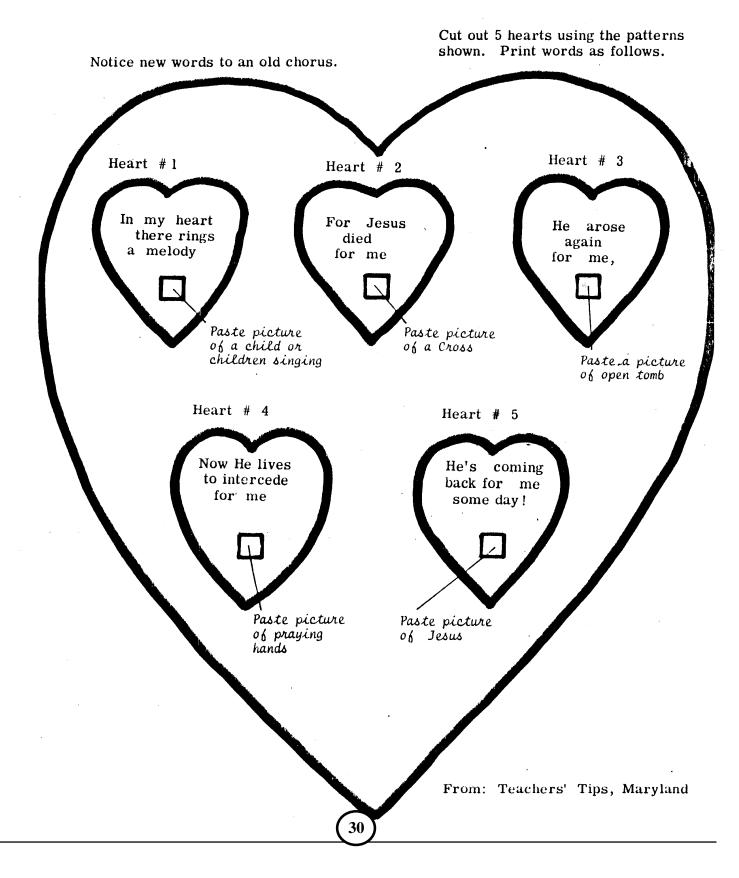
- J He is Just always fair. Psa. 45:6; Jer. 23:5
- **E** He is Eternal Rev. 22:13; John 17:5
- **S** He is the Saviour John 3:17; Heb. 7:25
- U- He is the Unequalled God; no heathen god can compare with Him. Col. 2:9; 1 Tim. 3:16; Isa. 45:22

S- He came to be a Servant - Matt. 20:28; Phil 2:7

The name of our King is Jesus. On this Palm Sunday we would shout with the multitude of those who loved Him. "Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord." Or, would you rebuke the people for acclaiming Him King?



"IN MY HEART THERE RINGS A MELODY"



EASTER SUNRISE VERSES

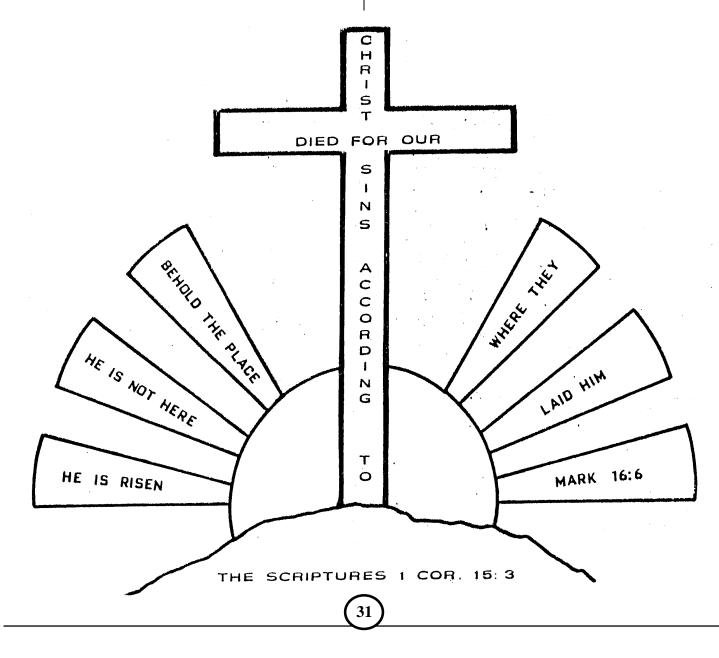
Visualized by Betsy Theaker M. Verse

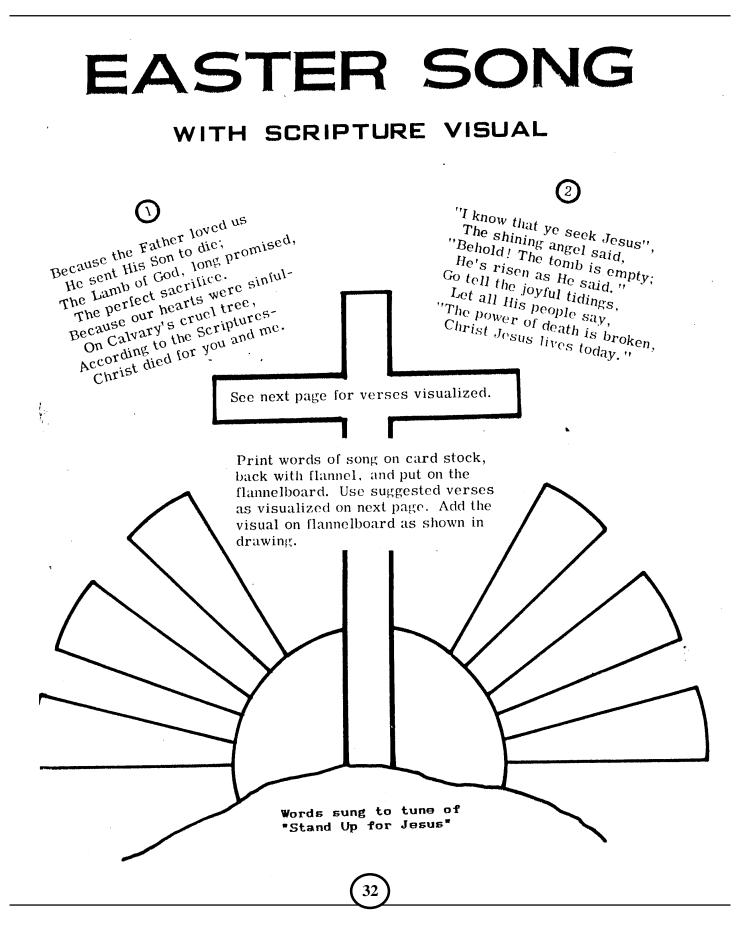
The verse in the shape of a cross should be presented two weeks before Easter, while the verse forming the sunrise may be added to the cross the following week, making a complete design. Cut the verse representing the cross apart like a jig-saw puzzle, a complete word on each piece. Put the disconnected shapes on the board, but with the words in order. Explain and drill on the verse in this form.

The attention of the children is held because they keep wondering what the queer shapes are going to be. After they know it, quite well, say, "Let's see if we can make anything else out of these shapes." Then put them together in the form of a cross. This cross should be made as large as the board as it is the great size that makes it striking.

To make the sunburst attractive, use gold paper mounted on royal blue or purple. Some thoughts on the sunrise follow:

- 1. They heard the news early in the morning.
- 2. It was the beginning of a new day (era or dispensation).
- 3. "Sun of Righteousness" is one of the names given to the Lord Jesus.
- 4. It was the sun (Son) rising.







A HAPPY CHRISTIAN by Judy Road

Christian Growth

When I want to teach children to give their whole life to the Lord and serve Him, after they receive Him into their hearts - I find just saying this to the children is very vague to them. The children need to know what to do to serve Him. So I devised this wheel and tried to make this truth plain to the children.

The above pattern could serve as an illustration of what I mean. Make the wheel any size you desire.

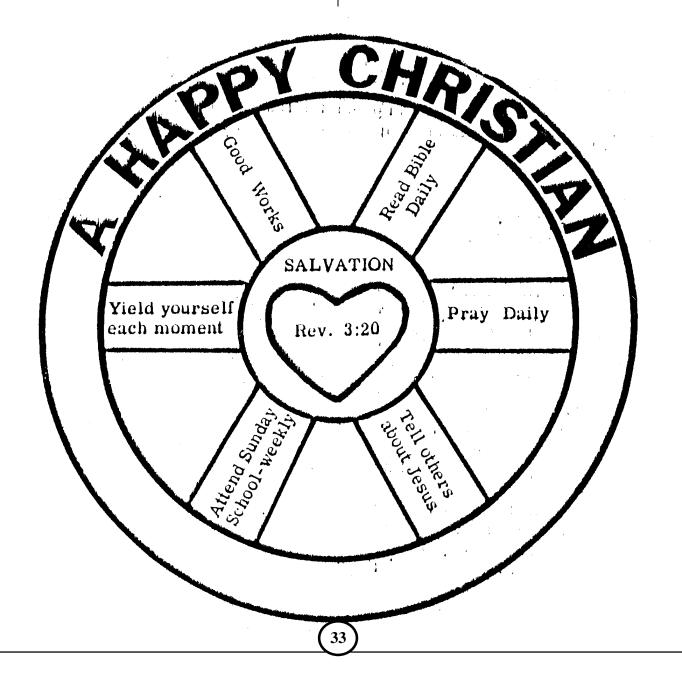
Mount the wheel on poster board, back with flannel, then cut each section. (center circle and spokes cut out like a puzzle)

Put up the middle circle with the heart and explain briefly SALVATION.

Then add each of the spokes; one at a time, explaining each.

With salvation first, these other things will help the child to grow in Him, and to serve Him daily.

The rim could be placed around the spokes to finish the lesson.



SOME LITTLE "IMPS" TO GET RID OF GROWTH

Use four sheets of cardboard or construction paper for flashcards. Put a picture of an Imp on each one and print the four major "imp" words used in the lesson.

Sometimes a parent will say to a child, "You are a little imp," meaning "You are naughty."

Imps are also pictured as little creatures who help the devil to trick people. There are some "Imps" that Christians must stay away from because these "Imps" give the devil the victory.

FLASH CARD #1 IMPOSSIBILITY. Some boys and girls are always saying, "I can't." "It's too hard to learn." "I'm too scared to tell someone about Jesus."

This person needs to ask God to help him do what he is supposed to do, and the person needs to try harder himself. This gets rid of "IMPOSSIBILITY." Phil. 4:13, Luke 18:27

FLASH CARD #2

IMPUDENCE (Read Ezekiel 3:7) Impudence means a shameless boldness. Israel would not listen to God. They boldly went their own way and refused to honor God with obedience. A brother to "IMPUDENCE" is



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"IMPIETY" - a lack of reverence for God. Christians who have a problem with these two "Imps" talk back to God. They refuse to obey or respect Him with the honor He deserves.

FLASH CARD #3 IMPATIENCE. Many people are troubled by this restless imp. They push ahead of God's will for them. They push other people to fulfill their wishes. Instead of waiting on God to supply their needs. They scheme and sometimes hurt other people. (Psalm 37:7, 2 Peter 1:6) Closely related "Imp"-"IMPOSE". Impatient people impose on other people.

FLASH CARD #4 IMPERFECTION. We are all troubled by imperfection and impurity. We are not completely grown up as Christians, and we have some flaws in our lives. God wants us to be pure, (1 Peter 1:14-16) to control our tongue, (James 3:2) and to continue to grow to be more and more like Christ so that we may stand unashamed before Him someday. (Col. 1:10; 4:12).

Are you troubled by <u>IMPOSSIBILITY</u>, <u>IMPUDENCE</u>, <u>IMPIETY</u>, <u>IMPATIENCE</u>, <u>IMPERFECTION</u> and <u>IMPURITY</u>? Christ is much greater than these "IMPS," and He wants to help you have the victory over them. (If you did not use the extra words given above, cut them out of your ending.)

SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE GROWTH

You will need four flash cards in the shape of a helmet. (See pattern diagram following)

FLASH CARD #1 - Picture of soldier in Christian armor.

The Bible says that Christians are to be soldiers for the Lord. Paul said to Timothy, "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." (2 Tim. 2:3)

He said, "As a good soldier." Did you know that it is possible to be a soldier in the right army and yet be the wrong kind of soldier?

Back in the time of history we call the Middle Ages, towns and countries needed soldiers to defend their land and people, but the rulers found it hard to get men to volunteer to fight.

FLASH CARD #2 - Pictures, or various kinds of money pasted on card.

So they offered men rewards and money for fighting. These soldiers became known as mercenaries or soldiers of fortune. The awful thing about mercenaries was that sometimes at the very height of battle, they would leave one side and fight for the enemy because the enemy offered them more money.

Now, being a soldier is hard work, so a man deserves some pay or reward for it. But the right kind of soldier fights for his country because he loves his country and feels loyalty toward it. The pay he gets is nice, but it is not his first reason for being a soldier.

FLASH CARD #3 - Picture of a crown, or crowns.

It is possible for a Christian soldier to be like a mercenary. It is possible to think too much about the rewards in heaven and how proud we will be to wear a crown. It is possible to think too much of the admiration we might receive here on earth from other Christians who will see our work for the Lord. It is possible to want to give things to God so we'll get greater blessings in return. It is also possible to be a very lazy soldier, or a soldier who goes back and firth sometimes fighting for the wrong side.

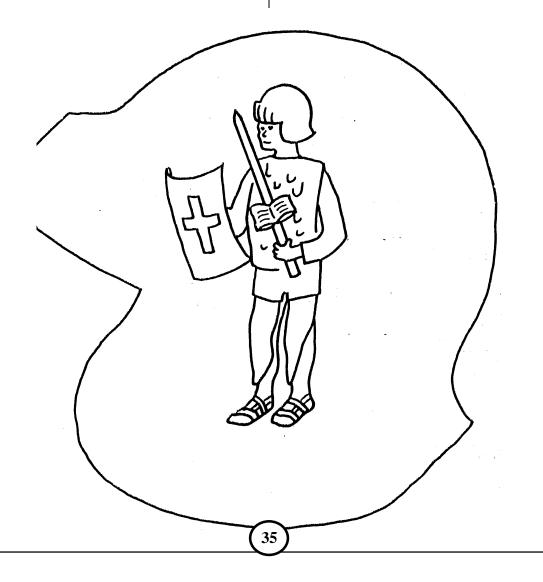
FLASH CARD #4 - Words: <u>OBEDIENCE</u>, <u>LOVE</u>, <u>LOYALTY</u>, printed on the helmet shape

A good Christian soldier chooses to serve his Lord because he believer in obeying God's commands to be strong and to fight the good fight of faith.

He serves because he loves God for all He has given him. And he loves Jesus for dying for him.

A good Christian soldier never switches sides. He keeps his mind off the riches and pleasures that the enemy Satan wants to offer him. He remains loyal and devoted to his Lord.

(Read again 2 Tim. 2:3 and add verse 4) "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please Him who hath chosen him to be a soldier." What kind of a soldier do you want to be?



BEAUTIFUL FEET Missionary Story

(Place the underlined objects on a table in front of the group and announce that you are going to use them to tell a story. Hold up each object as you come to it in the lesson.)

"Teacher, may I borrow one of your good needles and a piece of thread?" Colporteur Liu cocked his head to one side in a nervous little way that he had, shifted his weight to the other foot, cleared his throat, and giggled!

"What do you want it for?" I asked, not that it made any difference, but I just wanted to show an interest in him.

"Oh, nothing." he said, and giggled again. "And how long a piece of thread do you want to sew up nothing with?" I teased. He was a good-natured old man and didn't mind joking.

"Just a little piece like this," he said, holding his hands the way a fisherman does to show how long the fish was that got away. Looking at me out of the corner of his eye, he put his hands farther and farther apart to see how far my generosity would stretch. I knew from experience that he would take twice as much as he needed, twist up the unused half into a little hank, and take it home to his wife.

He thanked me when I produced some tough button thread and a strong needle. "That is just the thing." he said. "I want to sew up my heel." "Your heel?" I exclaimed.

"Yes, it is beginning to bother me - see - ." With this remark he showed me the back of his heel, where the tough skin had cracked open. He was going to sew the skin together to help the place to heal. His feet often got into this condition, because he wore no socks inside his sandals, and the stones on the roads were quite rough. Then in cold weather the skin chapped into big ugly gashes. "Old Liu!" I said. "You mustn't use a needle and thread for that. I have medicines in the dispensary that will help you."

"Oh, I didn't want to bother you for any medicine," he said. "I can fix this in a jiffy."

Only when I insisted did he let me go back into the little medicine room and bring out some vaseline. He was very much embarrassed when I asked him to put his foot up on the stump in our yard while I washed off the sore place and applied the medicine. We had run out of adhesive tape, so I used a little tar tape to bind the wound together, much to his amusement and downright approval.

"You wouldn't have a couple of inches extra of that black tape, would you?" he begged, and I gladly gave him some for future use.

"How about the other foot?" I asked.

"The other one isn't bad enough yet," he said, but on examination I found it needed some attention too. After a while I said to him, "Colporteur Liu, do you know you have beautiful feet?"

He was positively embarrassed at my saying that.

"My feet - beautiful? Oh, no! They are rough and ugly, covered with scars. Teacher, you know I have been walking up and down these rugged hills for many long years, and my feet get the hardest treatment of any part of my body. They are nothing to look at!"

"Oh, but you don't understand me," I exclaimed. "Perhaps you have never heard what it says over there in the book of Isaiah. You only have the New Testament in your language, and may never had heard what Isaiah says in the Old Testament about feet like yours."

"Feet like mine?"

"Yes, feet like yours," I replied. Then, as if changing the subject, I asked, "Where have

you been to and come back from?" (The tribesmen don't just ask where you have been; they want to know where you have come back from as well.)

"Just over the hills," he said, indicating the direction with a jutting motion of his chin.

"What were you doing over there?" I asked.

"You know," he said, surprised. "I have been over to those villages selling Gospels and telling the people about the Lord Jesus Christ." "I know," I said. "You have been over the hills

with the Gospel of peace."

"That's right."

"Well, that is just what Isaiah was talking about. He says, `How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace."

"Did he really say `upon the mountains'?"

"Yes," I replied.

"Are you sure he didn't say the mountains were beautiful?" he asked, looking away to the hills on the other side of the river.

"Not in this place. He said very clearly, `How beautiful are the feet ..'"

"Well, what do you know?" he said with a shrug and a giggle, as he turned off down the path. The Word of the Lord had strengthened him and he went away convinced that it wasn't the way your feet looked but what you did with them that makes them beautiful!

"HE HEARETH THE PRAYER OF THE RIGHTEOUS"

Missions (A True Story)

During the time when China was overrun with bandits, a missionary and a clerk went to the nearest town to get money from the bank, which was necessary for carrying on their work. They reached the back safely, got the money and were on their return home. As night drew on they camped on top of a little hill for the night. After prayer, they lay down to rest with the box of money between them. They were very thankful in the morning to awaken and find they had not been attacked.

Some months later, a brigand chief was brought into the hospital for treatment. He said to the missionary, "A little while ago you went to a certain town and brought back a lot of money."

"Yes," was the reply.

"And you camped at night on the top of a little hill and you had soldiers with you."

"Yes, we did camp at that place for the night, but we had no soldiers with us."

"Oh, but you did!" the chief continued. "We intended to rob you that night, but when we saw the soldiers we feared they would resist and we should be killed, so we left you alone. I know there were soldiers, for I counted them and there were 27."

Later, when the missionary returned to England on furlough and related this story in a meeting, a man called out from the back of the Meeting Hall. "Can you tell me the date when this happened?"

"Yes," said the missionary, "it is very vivid in my mind so that I shall never forget." He then gave the date.

"I thought so," said the man. "On that evening a group of us met in our church to pray especially for the missionaries in China." Then looking at his diary, he added, "And there were just 27 of us present in prayer!"

A MISSIONARY IS

by Mrs. Doris Moose - Missions

A SENT ONE - John 20:21

God sent Jesus to minister to the world by loving the people on earth and dying for every one of them. Jesus told his disciples that they too were sent to minister to the world. A missionary today goes to people who need love and need Christ. He goes in answer to the call of God.

A LENT ONE - Acts 13:1-4

The missionary is usually loved greatly by his relatives and his home church people. He is usually a hard worker who helped in the church at home. But when God calls someone to go away from his home church to work for Him, the church and relatives must give up that person, lend him out to help others, pray for him, and support him.

A BENT ONE - Eph. 6:18-20; Phil. 4:6,7

The missionary must have God's help to do his work, or he will fail. He will have some problems and face dangers. He could worry and fear, but then he would fail in the work of God. It is through prayer that the missionary gets wisdom to work out his problems; through prayer he gets the power to win others to Christ, and it is through prayer that he can be calm in the middle of danger.

A SPENT ONE - 2 Cor. 12:7-10; 7:5,6; Phil. 3:10

One who gives himself completely to God and His work will sometimes become tired and have little time for what people call leisure activities. But missionaries are happy people. They know that if they suffer exhaustion or sickness, they can come to know Christ even better because He suffered too. Also God promised that if we suffer for Him, we shall be rewarded by reigning with Him. Missionaries must trust God to care for them in countries where there are many diseases. They cannot worry about their bodies all the time, but they must be willing to spend them or use them for God's work. God provides a new body someday to all His children.

(Make simple visuals on chalk-board or flashcards.)



MISSIONARY'S HANDS

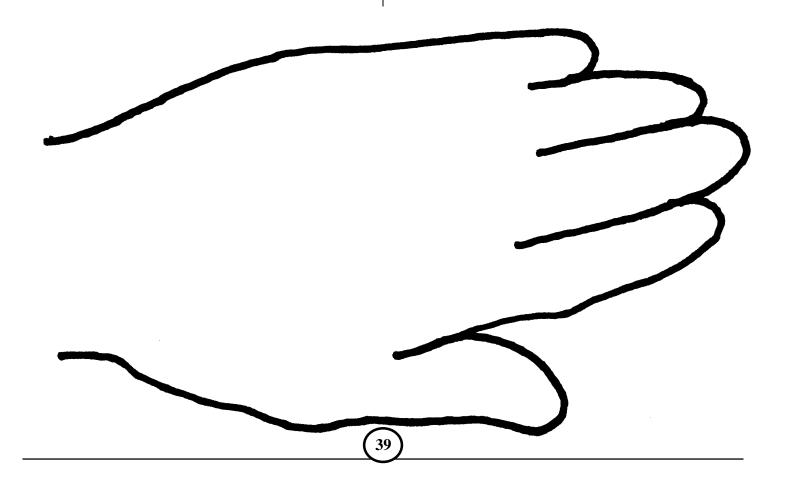
by Mrs. Doris Moose - Missions

- 1. Work to win the lost paste tract of Gospel of John on hand flashcard.
- 2. Work to build a church picture of bricks or hand holding a brick.
- 3. Work to build their house picture of hammer and nails.
- 4. Work to grow their food seed packet.
- 5. Work to repair equipment a picture of a wrench.
- 6. Work to comfort the sorrowing picture of hand on a man's shoulder.
- 7. Work to heal the sick picture of medicine and a bandage.
- 8. Work to study the Word of God hand tracing a scripture portion.

- 9. Work to baptize believers picture of two in stream. Hand of missionary raised to bless the convert.
- 10. Ride to other towns to spread the gospel further and to get supplies. Picture of bus or jeepney.
- 11. Pray for help and strength hands at prayer.

Make 11 large flash cards of a hand. On each one paste the actual object, (such as the tract) a picture, or a drawing to represent the 11 things a missionary's hands might do.

The Bible says: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might." As we pray for the missionaries, God will give them the strength to use their hands wisely and with great energy for Him.



THE CLOSED DOOR

by Mrs. Elsie Leslie - Missions

Gamu, an African boy, lived in a grass-roofed hut. The floor was mud. There were no windows in his home, and in the doorway there hung a large piece of hide for the door.

Into Gamu's village one day came a white man, a missionary, with a strange new story. He told of a wonderful city called Heaven and of a living God who wants everyone to live there with Him. This was very new and strange to Gamu. The white man explained that all have sinned and this sin will keep us out of Heaven unless it is forgiven, and the punishment is paid. God loves all men so much that He sent His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to die on a cross to pay for all sin. New He knocks on the door of our hearts because He wants to come in and make our hearts clean. We must let Him come in.

The missionary asked Gamu if he would like to have the Lord Jesus come into his heart. "No," said Gamu, "not now. Perhaps some other day I will open my heart to Him."

One day Gamu noticed a white spot in the skin on him arm. It was there day after day and would not heal. Instead, it grew larger, and more spots appeared. Finally, Gamu's father saw them. His face grew pale, and he was frightened. "That is leprosy, a terrible sickness," he said. "Those sores will spread until they cover your whole body. Go away! We don't want to have your sickness too." He pushed Gamu out of the hut. Gamu crouched miserable outside the door. He had no money and no food. No one wanted him now. Even his family would not let him enter his own home. Although the door was only a curtain, it might as well have been padlocked iron. It would always be closed to him now.

A closed door! That reminded him of the white man's story. Gamu thought of Jesus as waiting outside the door of his heart, just as Gamu was waiting outside the door of his home. He knew that Jesus wanted to enter and clean up his heart.

Gamu thought about his sins - the lying stealing, and the mean things he had done. His sin was just like his leprosy; it would spread and fill his life and bring only death. He wondered if Jesus would want to help him since he had refused to let Him in.

Gamu stood up. "I'll go to the missionary," he said. The missionary welcomed Gamu. "You may live here at the leper home, and we will give you medicine to help your sickness. But, better than that, the Lord will heal your heart, even if you did keep Him waiting. Would you like to ask Him in now?"

"Yes," said Gamu, "I know how it feels to be kept outside the door." Gamu prayed, "Lord Jesus, I have sinned and am sorry. I now believe You died for me. Please come into my heart and make it clean and forgive me for not letting You in before."

The Lord will come in as He has promised to do, if we will ask Him. He made Gamu's heart clean. Is the door of your heart closed to Jesus? Why not open it today?

OLD MAN CLINE

Once there was an old man whose name was "Mr. Cline." He was a very grumbly man. The boys and girls did not like him because he was so very grouchy. Just imagine. When they were playing near his yard he would very roughly tell them, "You go away!" No wonder! He did not know the Lord Jesus as his Saviour, Lord and Friend. So they called him "Old Man Cline." It was not very nice of them to call him that for we should not really call older people "old man" or "old lady."

One Sunday Mr. Cline was out in his yard fussing with the flowers and taking care of his yard. Of course, the boys and girls had gone to Sunday school. As they were coming home they were all singing because they were so happy having heard more from the Word of the living God. Mr. Cline heard them as they came nearer to his house. This is what he thought he heard:

> "Saved by grace divine, This is all my plea; Jesus died for old Man Cline And Jesus died for me."

Well. You can imagine how Mr. Cline pricked up his ears and was surprised, saying to himself: "Why that song has my name in it. What? Did someone

die for me?" He went into his house and finally found a Bible that he had not touched for many, many years. He dusted off the old Bible and sure enough he found that Jesus did die for Him.

That very Sunday Mr. Cline asked the Lord Jesus Christ to come into his heart and cleanse his heart from all sin. Do you think the Lord Jesus did? Of course. When the Lord Jesus came into his heart, he made Mr. Cline all new. Mr. Cline "got converted" through receiving the Lord Jesus Christ into his heart. He was born into God's family! Do you know what converted means? It means to change -- to turn upside down, and that is just what happened to Mr. Cline. (Teacher, turn face upside down.) He really was different because the Lord Jesus came into his heart. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away, behold all things are become new."

The folks noticed the difference too. One day someone spoke to him, "Mr. Cline, you are SO different. Whatever has happened?" Mr. Cline, with a big smile said, "I've given myself to the Lord Jesus. He died for ME and He is MY Saviour." "Tell me how it happened." She asked. "One Sunday I was out in my garden and I heard the boys and girls singing a song that had my name in it, and I began to read my mother's old Bible. It was then that I found out that the Lord Jesus really did die for me." "What song has your name in it?" she asked. And right then as they were talking, the children came up and said, "We weren't singing, any song about Mr. Cline. We were singing, "Saved by grace divine, This is all my plea; Jesus died for all mankind, and Jesus died for me."

Yes, Mr. Cline had misunderstood the song, but he got the right meaning

after all, for Jesus died for him as though he were the only person in all the world.

NOTE: The face of Mr. Cline can be backed for use on the flannel-board or used as a flash card object lesson. You may add a Bible to the lesson for the part where Mr. Cline goes into the house and finds his mother's Bible.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TEACHER ONLY SESSION ONE

1. Requirements:

- a. File (required to graduate). Due first Sun.
 P.M. in January 60 % of grade. Put in a tight box w/ lid; outline/name in front.
- b. Christmas lesson verse song. Due last class session. 20% of grade. Must be own work - flannel or flashcard, etc.
- c. Christmas Party. Report due with file, place in front of file with outline. 20 % of grade
- 2. Go over file outline. Can use folders or envelopes.
 - a. Prepare Roman numeral headings (I, II, etc.) even if no material for that section yet. Place NO empty envelopes or folders within sections.
 - b. Show file talk about box. Card subjects (if will preach) in recipe box, cross reference with file.
 - c. Get material from magazines, newspapers, cards, calendars, booklets, sermon and S.S. notes, radio, tracts what else?
- 3. Material needed next week: Must have #4,7 (on page 1) #1,2 would be helpful.
- 4. Go over Visual Aids, Why and How? and Posters, Charts, Diagrams. (pages 1 - 5)
- 5. Show flannel board. Can use towel or baby blanket (plain). Explain how figures stick. (Next week we go over songs and memory verses.)
- 6. Show Bible & Holiday lessons Students begin to copy as time permits.

SESSION TWO

- 1. Show songs (homemade are best) flannel board, hand held, chart, etc. (use ideas from Teacher Training material) Can be Tagalog.
- 2. Show Memory Verses (mention 10 ways to teach from Teacher Training material)
- 3. Show over-size file (for storing large items) explain cross-reference to file.
- 4. Explain why Mission stories are needed in Children's classes (in addition to Bible

Stories). To give burden and vision early in life to pray, give, go. Many great missionaries were called as children.

5. Students copy Songs, M.V. and Missions.

SESSION THREE

- 1. Students copy lessons on growth and salvation.
- 2. Students copy from Sessions 1 and 2 also, as desired.

SESSION FOUR

- 1. Students show Christmas story, song, m.v. (teacher grades). Be sure to ask if work is their own.
- 2. Students copy promotions, games, stick figures, etc.
- 3. Answer questions, make sure they have Christmas party report slips.
- 4. All those absent this session and others with unfinished visuals, put them in front of file to be graded.

CHRISTMAS PARTY REPORT	CHRISTMAS PARTY REPORT
DATE	DATE
PLACE	PLACE
NO. PRESENT	NO. PRESENT
SAVED	SAVED
TEACHERS:	TEACHERS:
CHRISTMAS PARTY REPORT	CHRISTMAS PARTY REPORT
DATE	DATE
PLACE	PLACE
NO. PRESENT	NO. PRESENT
SAVED	SAVED
TEACHERS:	TEACHERS:
CHRISTMAS PARTY REPORT	CHRISTMAS PARTY REPORT
DATE	DATE
PLACE	PLACE
NO. PRESENT	NO. PRESENT
SAVED	SAVED
TEACHERS:	TEACHERS:

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REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS BLOCK:

REQUIREMENTS:

- 1. A File
- 2. Christmas Lesson Christmas verse Christmas song
- 3. Christmas Party

MATERIALS NEEDED IN CLASS:

- 1. Ruler
- 2. Art gum eraser
- 3. Scissors
- 4. Pencil, pen
- 5. Black felt markers (blunt/ pointed end)
- 6. Crayons, colored pencils or markers
- 7. Plain paper for copying



