



A PARTNER
RESOURCE



KIDStory™

**18 RETELLING
BIBLE STORIES LESSONS**

A fun and creative way to
teach the Prayer Covenant for Children
Bible stories to children.



Jesus: Story of the Lost Lamb ⁽¹⁾

Luke 15:1-7

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Hide something before the children arrive. When you start the lesson, look around for what you "lost." Ask the children to help you find it. After it is found, have the children share a time when they found something special to them that was lost.

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Comic Strip – Give each child a sheet of paper. Have them fold it in half, then fold that half again and then a third time. When you open the paper, there should be eight boxes on the paper. For each scene or action in the Bible story, have each child draw a simple picture or object in each box in the order that it happens in the story. Let the children retell the story to a partner by using their comic strips.

BACKGROUND

Jesus told many stories called parables to tell the people what was really important to God. God loves His people very much and Jesus told several stories to let the people know how much He loves everyone.

A Pharisee was an important religious leader during the time of Jesus.

BIBLE STORY

The tax collectors and sinners all came to listen to Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law began to complain: "Look, this man welcomes sinners and even eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this story: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep but loses one of them. Then he will leave the other ninety-nine sheep in the open field and go out and look for the lost sheep until he finds it. And when he finds it, he happily puts it on his shoulders and goes home.

He calls to his friends and neighbors and says, 'Be happy with me because I found my lost sheep.' In the same way, I tell you there is more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes his heart and life, than over ninety-nine good people who don't need to change.

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What do you think Jesus was teaching through this story?
- Do you feel like you are a sheep that is lost or found?
- Today I learned that Jesus is _____. What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- What do you feel is really important to God?
- From what you learned today, what do you feel Jesus might be saying to you?
- How does this story tell the Good News? Do you want to know God like this? Is there something happening right now in your life where Jesus could help you?

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- Because of what you've learned today, would you like to trust Jesus, the Good Shepherd as your Savior?
- Is there anyone you know who needs the Good News of the Gospel who you could tell this story?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

There is joy in heaven when we turn to Jesus as our Savior. Lord, bless us with Your joy.

Jesus: Story of the Lost Lamb ⁽²⁾

Luke 15:1-7

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

If you could have a really big party, what would you celebrate? Who would you invite?

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Dice: Each small group has one dice. The first person rolls the dice. If they get a "1" or "2" they can pass the dice to the next person and do not have to tell any part of the story. If they roll a "3" or "4" they have to tell the next part of the story. If they roll a "5" or "6" the dice goes back in reverse to the person who just had the dice and they have to tell the next part of the story

BACKGROUND

Throughout the Bible, God and Jesus are known as the Great Shepherd. We are His sheep which He cares for and loves very much.

BIBLE STORY

The tax collectors and sinners all came to listen to Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law began to complain: "Look, this man welcomes sinners and even eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this story: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep but loses one of them. Then he will leave the other ninety-nine sheep in the open field and go out and look for the lost sheep until he finds it. And when he finds it, he happily puts it on his shoulders and goes home.

He calls to his friends and neighbors and says, 'Be happy with me because I found my lost sheep.' In the same way, I tell you there is more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes his heart and life, than over ninety-nine good people who don't need to change.

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What did you imagine as the story was being told?
- In what ways are we also like the sheep? In what ways are we different?
- Have you ever felt like you were lost from God?
- How do you think it makes God feel when we stray from Him?
- In what ways can we come back to God?
- How did this story challenge you or encourage you?
- Because of today's story how might you live differently?
- This story tells me that God is _____.

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- Because of what you've learned today, would you like to trust in Christ as your Savior?
- What do you feel the Holy Spirit is asking you to do with what you learned today?
- Who would you like to share this story with?

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless us with a desire to stay close to you and not wander off.

Abraham: God's Covenant ⁽¹⁾

Genesis 17:1-8

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

One day I want to ...

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Hand Motions: Go back through the Bible story and have the group come up with different hand motions that would help them remember each part of the story. Keep going back through the story adding more hand motions until the story is retold.

BACKGROUND

People continue to disobey and not follow after God. God calls out to one man, Abram. God asks him to move away from his home country and He will make a great nation from Abram's family to follow after Him. You will hear us use the word descendant. These are the sons and daughters that continue to have families. You are a descendant of your parents. Your parents are descendants of your grandparents. When you have children, they will be your descendants.

BIBLE STORY

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty. Obey me and do what is right. I will make an agreement between us, and I will make you the ancestor of many people."

Then Abram bowed face down on the ground. God said to him, "I am making my agreement with you: I will make you the father of many nations. I am changing your name from Abram to Abraham because I am making you a father of many nations.

I will give you many descendants. New nations will be born from you, and kings will come from you. And I will make an agreement between me and you and all your descendants from now on: I will be your God and the God of all your descendants.

(story continues on the next page)

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What might God have been teaching or showing Abram in this story?
- What was Abram risking in order to follow God?
- What do you think Abram was thinking about when God came to him?
- What do you feel is really important to God? What was important to Abram?
- Is there something God may want you to do that would be risky like Abram? If so, what is stopping you?
- What is something you learned today about God?

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- From what you learned in today's story, how might you live differently?
- Who can you share this story with?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

You live in the land of Canaan now as a stranger, but I will give you and your descendants all this land forever. And I will be the God of your descendants.”

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, thank you for your promises. Bless these children to hear your voice like Abram did and to know that you keep your promises.

Abraham: God's Covenant ⁽²⁾

Genesis 17:1-8

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

I can expect God to ...

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Pantomime: Divide the group into several smaller groups. Have one group act out the first part of the story without using words. The other groups have to say what is happening. The next group has to act out the next part of the story and the remaining groups tell what is happening. Continue till the story is retold. You may remind the group acting out the story if they don't remember what the next part is.

BACKGROUND

God has chosen Abraham to make a great nation from him and a son that God will give him. God promises Abraham that he will have more children than the stars in the sky. God makes a great promise to Abraham that He will never break.

Descendants are children who the mom and dad will have and then those children will have children and it keeps going. You are a descendant of your grandparents and parents.

BIBLE STORY

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty. Obey me and do what is right. I will make an agreement between us, and I will make you the ancestor of many people."

Then Abram bowed face down on the ground. God said to him, "I am making my agreement with you: I will make you the father of many nations. I am changing your name from Abram to Abraham because I am making you a father of many nations.

I will give you many descendants. New nations will be born from you, and kings will come from you.

(story continues on the next page)

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- How did the story describe God's relationship with Abram?
- Do you have a relationship with God? If so, how did it start?
- I wonder what it was like for Abraham to hear from God.
- How do you respond to God ?
- What would you like God to say to you?
- If God were to change your name, what would you want it to be? Why did you pick that name? How might it change your life?
- What did you notice about God from the story?

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What does God want you to do with what you learned today?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

And I will make an agreement between me and you and all your descendants from now on: I will be your God and the God of all your descendants.

You live in the land of Canaan now as a stranger, but I will give you and your descendants all this land forever. And I will be the God of your descendants.”

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless these children with a vision for how you can do great and wonderful things through them like you did with Abram.

Jesus: The Story of the Good Samaritan ⁽¹⁾

Luke 10:25-37

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

What is something good that you have done for someone else?

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Act it Out: Assign different characters of the story to each of the children. Let them practice before actually acting out the story. See if there are one or two children who want to be the person telling the story while the other children act it out.

BACKGROUND

We find different people were trying to trick Jesus by asking him difficult questions. Jesus always had the right answer for them. Now during this time, the Samaritans and the Jewish people did not get along – they were enemies. A lawyer comes and asks a question to test Jesus. Let's see how Jesus responds.

BIBLE STORY

Then an expert on the law stood up to test Jesus, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to get life forever?"

Jesus said, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"

The man answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind." Also, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

Jesus said to him, "Your answer is right. Do this and you will live."

But the man, wanting to show the importance of his question, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus answered, "As a man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, some robbers attacked him. They tore off his clothes, beat him, and left him lying there, almost dead. It happened that a priest was going down that road.

(story continues on next page)

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's Bible Story?
- I wonder why God put this story in the Bible.
- Who were the different people in the story?
What choices did they make? What happened because of their choices?
- How would you have felt if you were the man beaten on the side of the road?
- When have you felt alone and people just walked by and it seemed like they didn't care?
- Who has been a good neighbor to you?
- What does this story tell us about God and how He wants us to treat one another?

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What is the Holy Spirit prompting you because of today's story?
- This week I am going to tell this story to _____.

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

When he saw the man, he walked by on the other side. Next, a Levite came there, and after he went over and looked at the man, he walked by on the other side of the road.

Then a Samaritan traveling down the road came to where the hurt man was. When he saw the man, he felt very sorry for him. The Samaritan went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds, and bandaged them.

Then he put the hurt man on his own donkey and took him to an inn where he cared for him. The next day, the Samaritan brought out two coins, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of this man. If you spend more money on him, I will pay it back to you when I come again.'

Then Jesus said, "Which one of these three men do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by the robbers?"

The expert on the law answered, "The one who showed him mercy."

CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, I pray that You pour Your love into each of these children so they might love You with every part of them.

Jesus: The Story of the Good Samaritan (2)

Luke 10:25-37

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Describe a time when someone helped you or your family.

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Rope Game: Get a piece of rope that is 15 feet long and tie the ends together. Have the children get in a circle with everyone holding on to the rope. Start moving the rope in one direction. When you say "STOP," the person closest to the knot has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this till the story is told.

BACKGROUND

The Samaritans and the Jewish people did not get along. Because of that, they would never help each other – in fact the Jewish people would not even step on the land that the Samaritans lived on. They would walk all the way around so they could avoid them.

BIBLE STORY

Then an expert on the law stood up to test Jesus, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to get life forever?"

Jesus said, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"

The man answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind." Also, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

Jesus said to him, "Your answer is right. Do this and you will live."

But the man, wanting to show the importance of his question, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus answered, "As a man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, some robbers attacked him. They tore off his clothes, beat him, and left him lying there, almost dead. It happened that a priest was going down that road.

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- As you were listening to today's story, what did you imagine? What did you hear? What did you see?
- I wonder how I can be a good neighbor to others.
- Someone I believe God wants me to help is _____.
- Are there people whom you have a hard time getting along with? How would God want you to be a good neighbor to them?
- What stops me from being a good neighbor is _____.
- I wonder how all of us can be a good neighbor in our community.
- When I am a "good neighbor," I believe God feels _____.

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- Because of this Bible Story, I will _____.

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

When he saw the man, he walked by on the other side. Next, a Levite came there, and after he went over and looked at the man, he walked by on the other side of the road.

Then a Samaritan traveling down the road came to where the hurt man was. When he saw the man, he felt very sorry for him. The Samaritan went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds, and bandaged them.

Then he put the hurt man on his own donkey and took him to an inn where he cared for him. The next day, the Samaritan brought out two coins, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of this man. If you spend more money on him, I will pay it back to you when I come again.'

Then Jesus said, "Which one of these three men do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by the robbers?"

The expert on the law answered, "The one who showed him mercy."

Jesus said to him, "Then go and do what he did."

CLOSING BLESSING

I speak Your blessing of love and compassion over each child here today, God, so that their actions honor You.

The Unforgiving Servant

Matthew 18:21-35

REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

OPENING

People really hurt me when _____.

RETELL

Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Act--it--Out

Assign different parts of the story to children in the group. Have them practice and then act out the story to the rest of the group.

BACKGROUND

A disciple is someone who tries to be think and act like their teacher. In the time of Jesus, this teacher was called a Rabbi. Jesus was a Rabbi who had 12 men who were his disciples, men who followed him very closely. Jesus has just taught them what to do when someone hurts them and how they should respond. Peter then has an important question for Jesus.

BIBLE STORY

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, when my fellow believer sins against me, how many times must I forgive him? Should I forgive him as many as seven times?"

Jesus answered, "I tell you, you must forgive him more than seven times. You must forgive him even if he wrongs you seventy times seven.

"The kingdom of heaven is like a king who decided to collect the money his servants owed him. ²⁴ When the king began to collect his money, a servant who owed him several million dollars was brought to him. ²⁵ But the servant did not have enough money to pay his master, the king. So the master ordered that everything the servant owned should be sold, even the servant's wife and children. Then the money would be used to pay the king what the servant owed.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- What did you imagine as the story was being told?
- Who were the different people in the story? What choices did they make? What other choices could they have made? What happened because of their choices?
- What would you have felt like if you were the master?
- What might stop people from saying "I am sorry."?
- Is there someone who has treated or is now treating you badly? How does it make you feel? Are you doing that to someone else? How might they be feeling?
- This story has shown me that God is _____.
-

PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

"But the servant fell on his knees and begged, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you everything I owe.' The master felt sorry for his servant and told him he did not have to pay it back. Then he let the servant go free.

"Later, that same servant found another servant who owed him a few dollars. The servant grabbed him around the neck and said, 'Pay me the money you owe me!'

"The other servant fell on his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you everything I owe.'

"But the first servant refused to be patient. He threw the other servant into prison until he could pay everything he owed. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were very sorry. So they went and told their master all that had happened.

"Then the master called his servant in and said, 'You evil servant! Because you begged me to forget what you owed, I told you that you did not have to pay anything. You should have showed mercy to that other servant, just as I showed mercy to you.' The master was very angry and put the servant in prison to be punished until he could pay everything he owed.

"This king did what my heavenly Father will do to you if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, I thank you that You have a forgiving heart and because of Jesus, You have forgiven us of all the things we do that hurt You. Bless these children with Your heart of forgiveness, that others might see the love of Jesus.

Jesus' Birth: The Shepherds Visit Him ⁽¹⁾

Luke 2:8-20

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

A time when I was really surprised was when ...

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Act it Out: Assign different characters of the story to each of the children. Let them practice before actually acting out the story. See if there are one or two children who want to be the person telling the story while the other children act it out.

BACKGROUND

The prophets, those people who speak for God, continue to tell the people to trust and follow the Lord. The people start to but then they stop. God decides to be silent for 400 years. Then an angel appears to a young lady named Mary, who is engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. God tells Mary that she is going to have a baby – a baby from God Himself. They are to name him Jesus. Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem just when it was time for the baby to be born.

BIBLE STORY

That night, some shepherds were in the fields nearby watching their sheep. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them. The glory of the Lord was shining around them, and they became very frightened. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news that will be a great joy to all the people.

Today your Savior was born in the town of David. He is Christ, the Lord. This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in pieces of cloth and lying in a feeding box."

Then a very large group of angels from heaven joined the first angel, praising God and saying: "Give glory to God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace among the people who please God."

(story continues on the next page)

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's Bible Story?
- Who were the different characters in the story?
- How did the shepherds respond when the angels came? How did Mary respond when the shepherds came to her and Joseph? What do you think was going on in her heart and mind?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- Has God ever surprised you with something?
- What is some good news that you would like God to tell you?
- What can you thank God for?
- This story tells me that God is _____.

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

When the angels left them and went back to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us about."

So the shepherds went quickly and found Mary and Joseph and the baby, who was lying in a feeding trough. When they had seen him, they told what the angels had said about this child. Everyone was amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

But Mary treasured these things and continued to think about them. Then the shepherds went back to their sheep, praising God and thanking him for everything they had seen and heard. It had been just as the angel had told them.

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

God, bless these children with a heart like Mary who treasures Your Word and Your promises.

Jesus' Birth: The Shepherds Visit Him ⁽²⁾

Luke 2:8-20

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Something I would want the world to know is ...

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Book Cover Design: Children design and draw their own book cover with words and pictures that best capture the different parts of the Bible story.

BACKGROUND

People have been waiting for thousands of years for God to send a Savior, the one who would free them from their sins. They kept waiting not knowing exactly when that time would come. They just knew they needed to be ready. Angels are appearing to Mary and Joseph and Mary is about to have a baby from God Himself. They needed to go to Bethlehem for an official counting by the government. There was no place to have the baby but in a stable where the animals were kept.

BIBLE STORY

That night, some shepherds were in the fields nearby watching their sheep. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them. The glory of the Lord was shining around them, and they became very frightened.

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news that will be a great joy to all the people. Today your Savior was born in the town of David. He is Christ, the Lord. This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in pieces of cloth and lying in a feeding box." Then a very large group of angels from heaven joined the first angel, praising God and saying: "Give glory to God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace among the people who please God."

(story continues on the next page)

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- What stood out to you in the story?
- What surprised you or amazed you about today's story?
- How do you feel about Jesus now?
- What Good News would God want you to share with your family and friends? What will make that easy or hard to do?
- What does this story tell you about God and Jesus?
- How will you respond to God today?

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

When the angels left them and went back to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us about."

So the shepherds went quickly and found Mary and Joseph and the baby, who was lying in a feeding trough. When they had seen him, they told what the angels had said about this child. Everyone was amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured these things and continued to think about them. Then the shepherds went back to their sheep, praising God and thanking him for everything they had seen and heard. It had been just as the angel had told them.

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, bless these children with a boldness to tell others the Good News of Your birth.

Peter Denies He Knows Jesus ⁽¹⁾

Matthew 26:69-75

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Share a time when you were really sad.

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Charades: Without using words, the kids act out the different scenes while the audience has to guess which part of the story they are doing.

BACKGROUND

Jesus has continued teaching people and telling them that he is the Messiah, the One God sent to save people. The religious leaders have Jesus arrested. The people are treating him very cruelly. Peter is one of Jesus' disciples, someone who had been following Jesus for 3 years.

BIBLE STORY

At that time, as Peter was sitting in the courtyard, a servant girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee."

But Peter said to all the people there that he was never with Jesus. He said, "I don't know what you are talking about."

When he left the courtyard and was at the gate, another girl saw him.

She said to the people there, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."

Again, Peter said he was never with him, saying, "I swear I don't know this man Jesus!"

A short time later, some people standing there went to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of those who followed Jesus. The way you talk shows it."

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- Who were the different people in the story?
- I wonder why Peter would say he did not know Jesus when he was such good friends with him.
- Have you ever been in a situation where you have said you did not know Jesus or you could have told someone about Jesus but you were afraid to?
- I wonder how Jesus felt when he knew that Peter was saying he did not know him.
- Have you ever felt alone or have your friends ignore you? How does it make you feel? It is no different for Jesus.

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- I could let others know about my love for Jesus by _____.
- Who can you tell this story to this week?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

Then Peter began to place a curse on himself and swear, "I don't know the man." At once, a rooster crowed.

And Peter remembered what Jesus had told him: "Before the rooster crows, you will say three times that you don't know me." Then Peter went outside and cried painfully.

CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, may we always to tell others how much You love us and we love You.

Peter Denies He Knows Jesus (2)

Matthew 26:69-75

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Finish this sentence: One day I did something really stupid. I. ...

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Line Up: Have the children get in line from shortest to tallest or youngest to oldest. The first person starts by sharing the first incident of the story. The second person tells the next thing that happened and so on till the story is retold.

BACKGROUND

Jesus has continued teaching people and telling them that he is the Messiah, the One God sent to save people. The religious leaders have Jesus arrested. The people are treating him very cruelly. Peter is one of Jesus' disciples, someone who had been following Jesus for 3 years.

BIBLE STORY

At that time, as Peter was sitting in the courtyard, a servant girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee."

But Peter said to all the people there that he was never with Jesus. He said, "I don't know what you are talking about."

When he left the courtyard and was at the gate, another girl saw him.

She said to the people there, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."

Again, Peter said he was never with him, saying, "I swear I don't know this man Jesus!"

A short time later, some people standing there went to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of those who followed Jesus. The way you talk shows it."

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you not like about today's story?
- What would it be like if different people kept saying the same thing about you and it is something you did not want them to know or say about you?
- I wonder why God put this story in the Bible.
- The story says that the people knew Peter was with Jesus because of how he spoke. I wonder what Peter said.
- How would people know you were with Jesus by the things you say?
- If I could tell Jesus one thing, it would be _____.

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What is something you would want to tell others about Jesus.
- This week, I believe the Holy Spirit wants me to _____.

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

Then Peter began to place a curse on himself and swear, "I don't know the man." At once, a rooster crowed.

And Peter remembered what Jesus had told him: "Before the rooster crows, you will say three times that you don't know me." Then Peter went outside and cried painfully.

CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with boldness to keep proclaiming Jesus as King and Lord.

Jesus Goes to Heaven ⁽¹⁾

Acts 1:8-11; Luke 24:52-53

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Share a time when you were really happy.

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Bible Story Relay: Divide the children into teams. They run to a designated spot and back. When they return they have to shout out the next part of the story. Then the next person runs to the spot and back and shouts out the next part of the story till every team has retold the story.

BACKGROUND

After coming into Jerusalem, the religious leaders wanted to kill Jesus. They lied about him and had him nailed to a cross. But three days later he could not be found where they buried him - he was alive!

Jesus has risen from the dead and been with his followers for 40 days. He promises them that He will send the Holy Spirit to be with them after he leaves.

BIBLE STORY

But when the Holy Spirit comes to you, you will receive power. You will be my witnesses in every part of the world."

After he said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud hid him from their sight. As he was going, they were looking into the sky. Suddenly, two men wearing white clothes stood beside them.

They said, "Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus, whom you saw taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you saw him go."

They worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem very happy. They stayed in the Temple all the time, praising God.

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What surprised you or amazed you about the story?
- What do you think it was like for the disciples to see Jesus go to Heaven? What would your response have been if you were there?
- After Jesus rose up to Heaven, the angels asked the disciples why they were just standing there. Where do you think Jesus would want you to go now that you have heard about him? Who would you want to tell?
- How would you want to worship Jesus?
- Something I learned today about Jesus is _____.

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- In what ways might you want to follow Jesus now that you have heard this story?
- Because of today's story, what difference might this make in how you love and serve Jesus?
- How do you think God wants you to have a part in His story?

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Being in Jesus' presence fills our hearts with praise. God, bless us with full hearts to praise You.

Jesus Goes to Heaven (2)

Acts 1:8-11; Luke 24:52-53

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Have you ever had a friend or family member move away? What was that like for you?

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Drawing – If you have the materials, have the children draw what they saw or what they liked best as the story was being told. Have each child share their pictures with the rest of the group. If there are different scenes from the story, have the children put them in the order that they occurred. Or, assign the different scenes to different children. Have them put the scenes in order and use their pictures to retell the story.

BACKGROUND

Though Jesus was killed on a cross and buried in a tomb, he has risen and he is alive!! Some people were extremely excited to know that he was no longer dead. Others doubted that this could be possible for they saw him die.

Jesus remained with them for 40 days before returning to Heaven.

BIBLE STORY

But when the Holy Spirit comes to you, you will receive power. You will be my witnesses in every part of the world."

After he said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud hid him from their sight. As he was going, they were looking into the sky. Suddenly, two men wearing white clothes stood beside them.

They said, "Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus, whom you saw taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you saw him go."

They worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem very happy. They stayed in the Temple all the time, praising God.

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What were the things that you noticed in today's story?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear and see as the story was told?
- How would you have felt if you were one of the disciples standing there?
- What would you have done after this if it had happened to you? Who would you tell? What would you say to them?
- This story tells me that God is _____.

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What did you learn about being a follower of Jesus from this story? Is there something specific you might obey this week?
- How will you respond to God and Jesus today?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

God, bless us with hearts and minds that totally believe in You.

Jesus Blesses the Children

Mark 10:13-16

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Share a time when you felt really loved by someone.

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Rope Game: Get a piece of rope that is 15 feet long and tie the ends together. Have the children get in a circle with everyone holding on to the rope. Start moving the rope in one direction. When you say "STOP," the person closest to the knot has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this till the story is told.

BACKGROUND

A disciple is someone who follows everything their teacher says and does. Listen to how the disciples respond to certain people when they are with Jesus. Where Jesus lived, children were not thought of very highly.

BIBLE STORY

Some people brought their little children to Jesus so he could touch them, but his followers told them to stop. When Jesus saw this, he was upset and said to them, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to people who are like these children.

I tell you the truth, you must accept the kingdom of God as if you were a little child, or you will never enter it." Then Jesus took the children in his arms, put his hands on them, and blessed them.

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- Can you see the children in the story?
What expressions are on their faces? How do you think they felt being with the disciples? With Jesus?
- What feelings did it generate in you? Can you see yourself coming to Jesus? What does that feel like?
- I wonder what the parents wanted from Jesus by bringing their children to Him? What would they want Jesus to bless them with?
- If you could ask Jesus to bless your children, what would you ask for?
- What do you think was going through the disciples' minds that they would stop the people from bringing their children to Jesus?
- In what ways does the church act like the disciples and stop the children from coming to Jesus?
- I stop the children from coming to Jesus by _____.
- What does this story tell us about God?
- Something I want Jesus to know is _____.

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- How does God want you to have a part in His Story?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus bless these children with your overwhelming joy and love.

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Have you made a decision to follow Jesus?
Can you tell us when that happened?

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Comic Strip – Give each child a sheet of paper. Have them fold it in half, then fold that half again and then a third time. When you open the paper, there should be eight boxes on the paper. For each scene or action in the Bible story, have each child draw a simple picture or object in each box in the order that it happens in the story. Let the children retell the story to a partner by using their comic strips.

BACKGROUND

The Jewish leaders are very upset that people are believing and following Jesus. They begin to persecute, which means to punish, them in hopes that they would stop following Jesus.

Do you think that worked? Let's hear what God does about it.

BIBLE STORY

So Saul headed toward Damascus. As he came near the city, a bright light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. Saul fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" Saul said, "Who are you, Lord?" The voice answered, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.

Get up now and go into the city. Someone there will tell you what you must do." The people traveling with Saul stood there but said nothing. They heard the voice, but they saw no one.

Saul got up from the ground and opened his eyes, but he could not see. So those with Saul took his hand and led him into Damascus. For three days Saul could not see and did not eat or drink.

There was a follower of Jesus in Damascus named Ananias.

(story continues on the next page)

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What stood out to you in the story?
- What was the work the Lord had for Saul?
- How did Saul respond to Jesus?
- What did you wonder about when the story was being told? What was it like for Saul? For Ananias?
- How would you have responded if you were Saul? How is God trying to get your attention? If you were the people in Damascus, how would you be responding knowing someone was coming to hurt you because you were a follower of Jesus?
- I wonder what the work is that Jesus has for you. (You might lay hands on the children and pray over them.)
- What is something you learned today about Jesus?

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

-
- Because of today's story how might you live differently?
- From listening to the story, what are you sensing the Holy Spirit is asking of you?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

The Lord spoke to Ananias in a vision, "Ananias!" Ananias answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go ask for a man named Saul.

He is there now, praying. Saul has seen a vision in which a man named Ananias comes to him and lays his hands on him. Then he is able to see again." But Ananias answered, "Lord, many people have told me about this man and the terrible things he did to your holy people in Jerusalem.

Now he has come here to Damascus, and the leading priests have given him the power to arrest everyone who worships you." But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! I have chosen Saul for an important work. He must tell about me to those who are not Jews, to kings, and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." So Ananias went to see Saul.

He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus sent me. He is the one you saw on the road on your way here. He sent me so that you can see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Immediately, something that looked like fish scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he was able to see again! Then Saul got up and was baptized.

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each one with the ability to see what plan you have for them

Jesus Chooses Saul (2)

Acts 9:3-18

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

If you could ask God any question, what would that be?

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Act it Out – Bring some children up and have them act out the story as you are telling it. You can also see if there are one or two children who want to be the person telling the story while the other children act it out.

BACKGROUND

God's love is amazing. He wants people to know Him and does some very different things for us to understand that.

Sometimes it comes through the kindness of another person, sometimes it is the amazement of His creation, for some it happens by hearing the words of the Bible. Sometimes it happens in very unusual ways like in today's story.

BIBLE STORY

So Saul headed toward Damascus. As he came near the city, a bright light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. Saul fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" Saul said, "Who are you, Lord?" The voice answered, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.

Get up now and go into the city. Someone there will tell you what you must do." The people traveling with Saul stood there but said nothing. They heard the voice, but they saw no one.

Saul got up from the ground and opened his eyes, but he could not see. So those with Saul took his hand and led him into Damascus. For three days Saul could not see and did not eat or drink.

(story continues on the next page)

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like most about today's story?
- What choices did the people make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- What kind of changes happened in Saul's life?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear and see as the story was told?
- What do you think was going on in Saul's heart and mind in this story? (You might go through each segment of the story to talk about the emotions he would have experienced.) How about Ananias?
- Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?
- What does the story tell us about God?

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- In what ways is God trying to get your attention? What is He asking of you? In what ways is this hard for you?
- What did you learn about being a follower of Jesus from this story?
- What does this story tell us about God?
- What is the Holy Spirit telling you now?

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

There was a follower of Jesus in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to Ananias in a vision, "Ananias!" Ananias answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and ask for a man named Saul.

He is there now, praying. Saul has seen a vision in which a man named Ananias comes to him and lays his hands on him. Then he is able to see again." But Ananias answered, "Lord, many people have told me about this man and the terrible things he did to your holy people in Jerusalem.

Now he has come here to Damascus, and the leading priests have given him the power to arrest everyone who worships you." But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! I have chosen Saul for an important work. He must tell about me to those who are not Jews, to kings, and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." So Ananias went to see Saul.

He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus sent me. He is the one you saw on the road on your way here. He sent me so that you can see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Immediately, something that looked like fish scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he was able to see again! Then Saul got up and was baptized.

⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

God, bless each one with a soft heart to love You with a desire to follow You all the days of their lives.

Jesus: The Story of the Good Samaritan ⁽¹⁾

Luke 10:25-37

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

What is something good that you have done for someone else?

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Act it Out: Assign different characters of the story to each of the children. Let them practice before actually acting out the story. See if there are one or two children who want to be the person telling the story while the other children act it out.

BACKGROUND

We find different people were trying to trick Jesus by asking him difficult questions. Jesus always had the right answer for them. Now during this time, the Samaritans and the Jewish people did not get along – they were enemies. A lawyer comes and asks a question to test Jesus. Let's see how Jesus responds.

BIBLE STORY

Then an expert on the law stood up to test Jesus, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to get life forever?"

Jesus said, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"

The man answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind." Also, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

Jesus said to him, "Your answer is right. Do this and you will live."

But the man, wanting to show the importance of his question, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus answered, "As a man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, some robbers attacked him. They tore off his clothes, beat him, and left him lying there, almost dead. It happened that a priest was going down that road.

(story continues on next page)

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's Bible Story?
- I wonder why God put this story in the Bible.
- Who were the different people in the story?
What choices did they make? What happened because of their choices?
- How would you have felt if you were the man beaten on the side of the road?
- When have you felt alone and people just walked by and it seemed like they didn't care?
- Who has been a good neighbor to you?
- What does this story tell us about God and how He wants us to treat one another?

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What is the Holy Spirit prompting you because of today's story?
- This week I am going to tell this story to _____.

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

When he saw the man, he walked by on the other side. Next, a Levite came there, and after he went over and looked at the man, he walked by on the other side of the road.

Then a Samaritan traveling down the road came to where the hurt man was. When he saw the man, he felt very sorry for him. The Samaritan went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds, and bandaged them.

Then he put the hurt man on his own donkey and took him to an inn where he cared for him. The next day, the Samaritan brought out two coins, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of this man. If you spend more money on him, I will pay it back to you when I come again.'

Then Jesus said, "Which one of these three men do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by the robbers?"

The expert on the law answered, "The one who showed him mercy."

CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, I pray that You pour Your love into each of these children so they might love You with every part of them.

Jesus: The Story of the Good Samaritan (2)

Luke 10:25-37

① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

② OPENING

Describe a time when someone helped you or your family.

③ BACKGROUND →

④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

⑤ RETELL

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

Rope Game: Get a piece of rope that is 15 feet long and tie the ends together. Have the children get in a circle with everyone holding on to the rope. Start moving the rope in one direction. When you say "STOP," the person closest to the knot has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this till the story is told.

BACKGROUND

The Samaritans and the Jewish people did not get along. Because of that, they would never help each other – in fact the Jewish people would not even step on the land that the Samaritans lived on. They would walk all the way around so they could avoid them.

BIBLE STORY

Then an expert on the law stood up to test Jesus, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to get life forever?"

Jesus said, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"

The man answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind." Also, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

Jesus said to him, "Your answer is right. Do this and you will live."

But the man, wanting to show the importance of his question, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus answered, "As a man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, some robbers attacked him. They tore off his clothes, beat him, and left him lying there, almost dead. It happened that a priest was going down that road.

⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- As you were listening to today's story, what did you imagine? What did you hear? What did you see?
- I wonder how I can be a good neighbor to others.
- Someone I believe God wants me to help is _____.
- Are there people whom you have a hard time getting along with? How would God want you to be a good neighbor to them?
- What stops me from being a good neighbor is _____.
- I wonder how all of us can be a good neighbor in our community.
- When I am a "good neighbor," I believe God feels _____.

⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- Because of this Bible Story, I will _____.

BIBLE STORY (Continued)

When he saw the man, he walked by on the other side. Next, a Levite came there, and after he went over and looked at the man, he walked by on the other side of the road.

Then a Samaritan traveling down the road came to where the hurt man was. When he saw the man, he felt very sorry for him. The Samaritan went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds, and bandaged them.

Then he put the hurt man on his own donkey and took him to an inn where he cared for him. The next day, the Samaritan brought out two coins, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of this man. If you spend more money on him, I will pay it back to you when I come again.'

Then Jesus said, "Which one of these three men do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by the robbers?"

The expert on the law answered, "The one who showed him mercy."

Jesus said to him, "Then go and do what he did."

CLOSING BLESSING

I speak Your blessing of love and compassion over each child here today, God, so that their actions honor You.