

Jesus knows you and loves you!

Memory Verse: “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” John 3:17

Main Teaching: Jesus knows you and loves you!

Word Up: Jesus loves everyone!

Supplies:

- Word Up Visual – Word Up (Resource Pack)
- Recording for “God Wants to Spend Time with just You” and “Jesus is the Good News” - Worship (Sing About the King 4 CD)
- Optional Song Visuals for “God Wants to Spend Time with just You” and “Jesus is the Good News” (cefpress.com)
- Ball of yarn for each small group – Small Group
- Coffee filter, blue and green washable marker, spray bottle – Object Lesson
- Memory Verse Visual – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Sticky Notes and optional blindfold – Memory Verse
- Missionary Story Visual – Missionary Story (Resource Pack)
- Paper Plate and marker for each child - Activity
- Memory Verse Token John 3:17 for each child – Dismissal (Resource Pack)

Schedule at a Glance (75 min club):

- 15 min – Small Group
- 10 min – Worship/Rules/Word Up
- 10 min – Object Lesson
- 15 min – Memory Verse
- 10 min – Game
- 5 min – Missionary Story
- 10 min – Small Group Wonder Time



SMALL GROUP

What Ties Us Together

Materials: Ball of Yarn for each small group

How to Play: The kids all stand in a circle. Hand the ball of yarn to someone in the circle and have that child/teacher share something about themselves such as, “I have a dog.” Or “I like to ride my bike.” If anyone else in the circle agrees with the statement or has a similarity, they raise their hand. The person with the yarn will hold onto the end of the string and throw the ball to someone raising their hand. Then that person gets to share a statement about themselves. They then hold on to the string and throw the ball to a new person. Continue playing until everyone is holding at least part of the string.

WORSHIP

To learn songs and motions, go to <https://www.cefcmi.com/lessons/song-demos>

“Jesus is the Good News”

“God Wants to Spend Time with Just You”

CLUB RULES

Review the Up Rules reminding the kids that following the rules helps everyone be able to feel safe and learn. If there is a particular rule the children are having trouble with, do a skit to highlight that rule and why it is important.

**WORD UP!**

“Jesus Loves Everyone!”

Who can tell me an ice cream flavor that they just love? How about a place you love to go visit? Give me the name of a person you love. We all have people and things that we love. But there is someone that loves you all the time, no matter who you are or what you do. That person is Jesus. Whenever you hear the words “Word Up” jump up and say **“Jesus loves everyone!”**

OBJECT LESSON**God Loves the World**

Materials: Coffee Filter, Blue & Green Washable Markers, Spray Bottle with Water

Before Activity: Using the blue and green markers, color “blobs” of blue and green on the coffee filter to resemble the world. (See end of lesson for globe pattern.)

(Holding up coffee filter so kids can see) I brought a picture with me that shows the continents and the oceans in the world. Who created the world? The Bible, God’s true Word, tells us that God created the world. He made the beautiful flowers, and all the animals, and the stars and galaxies! But do you know what the Bible says that God’s most special creation was of everything He made...? His most special creation was YOU! When God made everything in the world, He said it was “good.” But when God made people, He said it was “VERY good.” A few weeks ago, we learned John 3:16. In John 3:16, it says, “For God so loved the world.” And when it says “world” in this verse, it’s not talking about the continents and the oceans like my picture here shows....it’s talking about the PEOPLE in the world. This verse is talking about YOU. God loves you! Now, there are a lot of people in this world. It could be easy to ask, “Can God really love all those people?? God has enough love for everyone! (Spray coffee filter lightly with water. The colors will bleed together.) God’s love for the world is so great that it expands to every place and every person living on the Earth! There is no person too sinful and no place too far from God’s love. WORD UP! “God loves everyone!”


MEMORY VERSE

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him” (John 3:17)

INTRODUCTION

Can you think of a time when someone found out you did something wrong? (*Share an example from your own experience.*) Most of the time when we do something wrong, there is a punishment to keep us from doing it again. Unlike you and me, Jesus is perfect. He never did anything to deserve punishment. He could have come to the world to punish everyone in it for all the bad things people have done. But our verse tells us that God sent Jesus into the world for a completely different reason. Let’s read it together then tell me why God sent Jesus into the world.

PRESENTATION

(*Read John 3:17 from your Bible and have the children follow along on the visual.*) Why did God send Jesus into the world? (*Allow response.*) Jesus came to save the world. Who remembers our verse from last time? (*Review John 3:16.*) What book of the Bible is that verse from? (*Allow response.*) It’s found in the book of John. Today’s verse is found in the book of John too. In fact, it comes right after last week’s verse! (*Read John 3:17 from Bible while children follow along on visual.*) Is John in the Old Testament or New Testament? (*Allow response.*) The New Testament! It is the fourth book in the New Testament. The first four books are Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Say them with me. (*Say with children.*) These four books all tell about Jesus—His birth, His life, His death and resurrection. The four men who wrote these books lived in different places. But all four of these books—called the Gospels—tell the same story about Jesus. Some of the stories have more details than others. Some of the books tell stories that aren’t told in the other books. But together, all four Gospels give us the true story of the life of Jesus. Because God never lies, His Word is true all the time and is always correct. That is one reason we can trust that the Bible is the true Word of God. Let’s say our verse together. (*Say verse with children from visual.*)

EXPLANATION *the books tell stories that aren’t*

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world—God’s Son is Jesus. Jesus did not come to condemn (find you guilty) or punish you for your sin. He loves you so much that He does not want that for you.

but in order that the world might be saved through him—Jesus came so that you could be saved from the punishment of sin. The only way the world (you and me) can be saved from sin is by believing Jesus died on the cross and came back to life—trusting Him as the only one who can save you. When you are saved, your sins are forgiven and you have everlasting life with God. Jesus came to save the world—and that includes you!

APPLICATION

Saved: Jesus came into the world to love us and show those who have already believed in Him how to live. If you have already believed in Jesus as your Savior, He came to show you how to care for other people, even those who others do not care about and those who are hard to love. If you have believed on Jesus as your Savior, He wants you to love all people. **Ask the Holy Spirit to help you love people who are hard to love.** You can show your love by telling them of God’s love and praying that they will trust Jesus as Savior.

Unsaved: If you have not believed in Jesus as your Savior, **Jesus knows you and loves you.** Say with me, **“Jesus loves everyone!”** (*Say with children.*) Jesus came to show His love for you by dying in your place and

taking the punishment for your sin. Will you believe on Him today?

INVITATION



Do you know that you have sinned? Do you know that Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for your sin? Have you made the decision to put your trust in Him? Our verse today from John 3:17 said “*For God did not send his Son (Jesus) into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.*” When you believe in Jesus, trusting that He died on the cross for your sins, you will be saved – rescued from sin’s punishment. God will change you on the inside, helping you love Him and obey Him each day. Will you turn from your sin and believe in the Lord Jesus today? Please bow your head and close your eyes. If you believed in Jesus for the very first time today, or you want to talk to someone more about believing in Jesus, please show me by raising your hand. If you raised your hand, please meet me (*designate location*) and I’ll show you more from God’s Word how you can be saved.

REPETITION

Stump the Teacher

Blindfold a teacher (or just have them turn around and cover their eyes). Allow a child to choose a word from the memory verse and cover it with a sticky note. Then lead the children in saying the verse, skipping the word covered by the note. Have the teacher guess which word was left out. Repeat, making it harder by leaving out more than one word. This could also be done with a student hiding their eyes and guessing the word.

MISSIONS STORY

**Gladys Aylward
Part 5**



Do you remember how many children Gladys had taken in as part of her family? (*Allow response.*) She had 40. Then, in 1938, World War II came to the village of Yangcheng. Have you ever heard of World War II? (*Allow response.*) During this war, Japan fought against China and sent airplanes to drop bombs on Chinese villages. Gladys was at the inn with her family when bombs began to fall on her village. When the bombing was over, the town was in ruins. Even the inn was hit. And Gladys was knocked unconscious. When she awoke, she slowly pulled herself up. As soon as she could think clearly, Gladys ran everywhere with her little first

aid bag—mostly bandages and a bottle of medicine that helps cuts and bruises. Hundreds of people were hurt or dead. It made her sad and it made her think about all the children she had with her. She thought, *The children are living in a war zone. Dear God, what do I do?!*

Because of the war, and the many adults who had died in the villages near Gladys, more and more orphan children came to live with her in the damaged inn. Soon Gladys had 100 children!

The Mandarin was a good leader of the villages and wanted to help his people. He had grown to respect Gladys and helped her plan an escape with all the children. They decided Gladys and the children would walk across the mountains to a faraway city. Before they left, the Mandarin told Gladys that he had chosen to believe in Jesus and follow Him. What great news! She and the Mandarin prayed together, praising God for what He had done and asking for Him to be with Gladys and the children on the long journey.

They packed all the food they could carry and hurried off into the wild country of the mountains. They didn't have any cars or horses—they had to walk the whole way! And many of the children were still very little. Each child had a piece of blanket, a scrap of towel, a bowl, and chopsticks. The teenage boys carried food supplies. At first, the children laughed, skipped, sang songs, and talked about what their new home might be like.

But by the third day, the children were tired and hungry. They began to cry and complain. Some of their feet were cut and bleeding, and they were short of food and water. They even licked dew from rocks for a drink. They came to a big river, but there

was no bridge to cross. Gladys was discouraged and didn't know what to do. As they sat by the river's edge, one of the girls said, "It's like Moses crossing the Red Sea!"

Gladys said, "I'm not Moses and this isn't the Red Sea." But the girl responded, "But it's the same God." Gladys needed to be reminded that God was with them.

Would Gladys and the children find a way across the river? Would they ever make it to safety? Come back next time to find out how God continued to work in the life of Gladys Aylward.

ACTIVITY

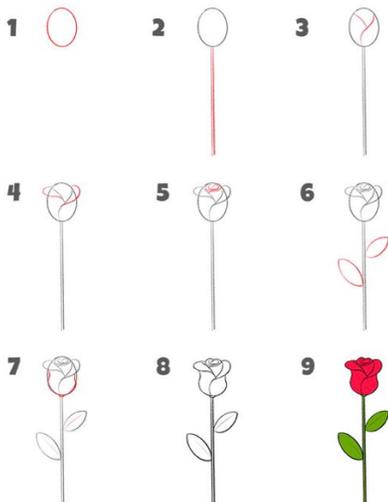
Blind Draw

Materials: Paper Plates and Markers

How to Play: Following the instructions listed on the step-by-step guide, lead the kids in drawing a rose. You will show them how to draw each step by drawing it for them on a paper or whiteboard that everyone in the room can see. The catch is that the kids will be drawing the rose without looking - they will be drawing on the paper plate as it rests on their head! Lead the kids through all the steps as they attempt to draw it on top of their head. After finishing, let them look at their drawing...it probably won't look much like a rose! Have the kids flip their paper plate over to the back and teach them how to draw it again, but this time they get to look. Ask the kids which was easier - to draw the rose without looking, or to draw it when they could see what they were drawing? Explain that roses are often given to the people we love. Jesus loves you with a love that will never, ever end! Just as it was hard to draw a picture when we couldn't see, it is often hard to believe that a God who we can't even see loves us. But we can trust that God's love for us is real and will never stop!

HOWTODRAWFORKIDS.com

HOW TO DRAW A ROSE



**SMALL GROUP / WONDER TIME****“God Can Give Us Love For Others”**

One way we can love people who are hard for us to love is to pray and ask God to change our hearts and give us love for them. We can read in God’s Word how Jesus loved many people who others did not love. The first four books of the New Testament—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—tell us all about Jesus and that He was kind and loving to all people. *(Read Matthew 5:44).*

Do you remember the person you thought of earlier—the one who is hard for you to love? Don’t say his or her name out loud but think about one way you can show love to that person this week. Let’s pray and **ask the Holy Spirit to help you love people who are hard to love.** *(Pray in small groups if you can. This will allow time for children to pray more specifically. Encourage children to pray out loud if they are willing.)*

DISMISSAL

Hand out memory verse token to each child and encourage them to memorize the verse and bring the token back completed next week. Remind the kids to look for ways to show God’s love to people who are hard to love.

Globe pattern for Object Lesson

