

LOGOS

Kids Club



Leader's Guide
Grades 1-2
Year 1



LOGOS Kids Club

Leader's Guide Introduction

I. History of the Ministry

In the early 1990's a group of children's leaders at Camelback Bible Church began asking the question, "What should we be teaching our children?" Dissatisfied with published curriculum that was often shallow, trendy, and moralistic, a prayerful search began. In time God directed these leaders to realize that this was probably not the first time in history that such a question had been asked. Throughout the history of the church God's people have wondered what the core of the instructional program should be.

To answer that question the church, over the years, has developed and then utilized catechisms to define core truths and then teach its people. The catechism lays out foundational truths in a question and answer format which every believer needs to understand and embrace. Church leaders hoped that such systematic teaching would curb the general ignorance among the people of God concerning their faith.

Taking this example from church history, the children's leaders at Camelback decided to put together a catechism based on the Heidelberg Catechism developed in the 1500's. This catechism was chosen for its interwoven theme of comfort, its beauty of expression, and for its solid theological perspective. Since the catechism was not written at a child's level the questions and answers were simplified and then developed into a sequence that sought to remain true to the original. Along the way, a few additional questions were added that were thought helpful. Most notably is a series of questions on the Beatitudes found in the Grades 5-6 level. From this process the LOGOS Kids Club was born!

II. Name and Theme Verse of the Ministry

The name of the ministry which bases its teaching on the above catechism is the **LOGOS Kids Club**. The word "LOGOS" is an acronym for "Love Of God Our Savior". This name was derived from the club theme verse taken from Mark 12:30-31.

Mark 12:30-31 *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."*

In these verses Jesus suggested that when all is said and done, the Christian faith is focused on loving God with your all, and loving your neighbor as yourself. It is the stated desire or purpose of the LOGOS Kids Club to encourage every child to fulfill this "Great Commandment" by God's grace.

III. Purpose of the Ministry

The stated purpose of the ministry is as follows:

To impart to children the truth of God's Word so that they will come to reverence the Almighty God through Christ as Savior and Lord and to develop a deep concern for the lost and an abiding love for God's people - all to the glory of God.

From this statement it can be seen that our desire is to teach faithfully the Word of God which will direct the hearts of the children to acknowledge God Almighty. Proper acknowledgement of God should result in a supreme love and obedience to God and a loving of one's neighbor which includes concern for their soul.

IV. Format of the Ministry

There are three parts to each club evening:

A. Memory Time – during this time the children review verses previously learned, are given an explanation of their new verse, and are assisted in memorizing it.

B. Bible Teaching Time – during this time a Bible truth is developed through a variety of teaching methods. Time spent discussing the lesson as well as praying through the lesson often follow.

Each evening is centered around one Bible truth which is presented to the child in the form of a question and an answer. The story and memory verse are used to help the children understand the main truth contained in the question and answer.

C. Craft/Game Time – during this segment of the night leaders and students take time to enjoy one another and build rapport as they participate in a planned game, craft, snack or other activity. Much can be learned during these times as leaders focus on God's presence in all of life's activities.

V. Content of the Ministry

The year 1 curriculum begins with 7-8 lessons on the basics of salvation. The remainder of the lessons focus on learning the significance of each phrase in the Apostle's Creed.

The year 2 curriculum begins with a series about the Ten Commandments, which is followed by a three part series on salvation basics. The remainder of the year is devoted to the study of the Lord's Prayer, except at the grade 5-6 level which ends with a focus on the Beatitudes.

Every 2 years the children cycle through the basic ideas found in the Heidelberg Catechism. At each succeeding level those ideas are then developed further. For example, in the year two curriculum, at level one the students study what the commandments tell us not to do. At the second level students study how love fulfills the commands. Finally, at the third level the children learn how the commandments reflect the character of God. By this method children receive multiple exposures to the material at increasing depths.

VI. Leadership of the Ministry

A club work is only as good as its leadership. In order for LOGOS to work and not lead children to cold formalism in their faith, leaders will have to work hard at developing a true community of faith within their groups. This will necessitate lots of prayer. It will also involve apprentice relationships. We hope each group will divide their children into groups under the care of a leader, trainer, discipler. The discipler should work hard at living the Christian life before the children, should shower the clubbers with the love of Christ, should show special interest in each child, and should encourage children in their learning and practicing of the faith. The discipler should also make sure that his main purpose is to lead children to a personal knowledge of and relationship with God in Jesus Christ.

Notes about using this Teacher's Manual

1. This manual contains **sample** lessons which are designed to show you how the lesson **might** be developed. They are not meant to be read to the children, nor are they designed to take the place of serious study by the teacher. It is hoped that each teacher will first prayerfully and carefully study the lesson scripture. Allow God to speak to you and to direct your thinking. Then read through the sample lesson and ask God to help you form your own unique lesson. Be sure to pray throughout the process, asking God to use you to communicate **His** message to the children.
2. Warning: Historically, catechisms were well used by God's people, but they were also misused. In too many instances people were led by their leaders to a cold formalism. Instead of being transformed by its truths, the people were hardened to the truth. To avoid repeating this tragedy be sure to focus on God in each lesson. Do not teach the Apostle's Creed; teach about the God to which the Apostle's Creed points. Do not teach the Ten Commandments; instead teach about the God who gave them. Don't teach the Lord's Prayer; instead use it to encourage true and living devotion to God. At the end of the day, what will matter is that the children have come to a personal relationship with the One True God. Whether they can answer all the questions word for word is not the most important matter.
3. According to 2 Timothy 3:16 God's inspired word is profitable for teaching, reproof, correction and training in righteousness. It is well able to make the man of God equipped and adequate for every good work. This truth should direct our teaching at all times. Our purpose in sharing God's Word is not just to "tell a story and sit down". This is not about entertaining children. What we are about is being used by God to equip the next generation of Kingdom laborers. At the end of each lesson it is important to call the children to apply the truths heard in such a way that will contribute to their being more fully ready for God's service. Help children make Kingdom applications!

LOGOS Kids Club
Year 1 - Lesson 1 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Exodus 3:1-15

Q&A: What is God like? God is eternal, holy, awesome and unchanging.

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Be able to give simple definitions for 4 key attributes of God: holy, eternal, awesome, unchanging.
2. Grow in the fear of the Lord

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Introduction

1. If I asked you what is your Mom or Dad like, what would you say? (Let children discuss)
2. How do you know what your Mom or Dad is like? (You spend time with them, observe them, talk with them...)
3. Today we want to talk about what God is like. But how do we get to know what God is like? We must go to His book, the Bible, and see what God says about Himself. This is the main way we get to know God.
4. So this evening we are going to look at a story about a man named Moses in order to learn what God is like. We must remember that we can never know all about God for He is too great for any man to completely know.

Body

1. Background

How many of you have ever heard of a man named Moses? You may remember that Moses was born when the people of Israel were slaves in Egypt. For 400 years they served the Egyptians. This was all part of God's plan because He caused Israel to grow into a great nation during those years.

Now the Egyptians were becoming leery of the Israelites' size. To stop the threat of their size the Egyptians declared that all Israelite boys had to be killed. Moses was born into this situation.

His parents, who feared God, hid him as long as they could, but the time came for them to do something. With God's help and according to His plan they floated him down the river only to have him picked up by Pharaoh's daughter. During these early years Moses received a great education and spiritual training from His mother who had been called upon to nurse him.

Once when Moses was about 40 he saw an Egyptian treating an Israelite very badly. Moses protected the Israelite and killed the Egyptian. Things, however, did not turn out as he expected. He thought he might be the one who would lead Israel out of slavery, but this incident only led to 40 years in the wilderness for Moses. Needless to say he was confused.

2. What God is like

A. Holy: Exodus 3:1-5

So Moses spent 40 years in the wilderness taking care of sheep. I'm sure he wondered what would ever become of his life. Then one day while he was tending his sheep near Mt. Horeb Moses saw something peculiar. It looked like a bush was on fire, but it was not being burnt up. So Moses turned aside to see what this strange thing could be.

Do you know what that burning bush was? It was the angel of the Lord in the midst of the bush appearing as a blazing fire.

When Moses got near the bush God called out to him, "Moses, Moses". And Moses said, "Here am I."

Then the Lord said, "Don't come near here. Take off your sandals, for the ground you are standing on is holy ground. "The Lord was telling Moses that before him was something so different than anything else in the whole universe that he ought to approach it with care.

This helps us to understand our first characteristic about God: that he is holy. Holy means "set apart".

Illustration: How many of you play basketball? How would you compare your ability to a college basketball player? There is a pretty wide gap between your abilities, isn't there? The college player is in a different class. He is set apart in his ability. How would you compare your ability to a NBA rookie? There would be an even bigger gap. How would you compare it to Michael Jordan? You would have to say Michael's play is in a whole different league than yours. He is way, way set apart.

This is one way we must try to understand God. He is holy. He is set apart from sin. He is set apart in power and might. He is set apart in what He knows, in love and compassion. There is no being like God. He is far beyond anything we can know on this earth. That's what we mean by holy.

Because of this Moses was not to come near. He was to take off his shoes as a sign of respect for this God who was so unlike him or anything with which he had come in contact.

2. Awesome 3:6

Exodus 3:6 ⁶ Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. (NIV)

From this we learn our second characteristic: that God is awesome. Let's say that awesome means "producing fear or reverence. " Did you see what Moses did when he was brought before God? He hid his face because he feared looking at this mighty God.

When I think of awesome I think of the time when our pole barn burnt down. The fire was huge and uncontrollable. As I stood before it I knew I stood before a power that I in no way could tame. It may have been the same for Moses. He knelt before this Almighty God, an untamable power that was far beyond him. This produced fear in Him. Our God is an awesome God. If we were to see Him we would fear exceedingly.

3. Eternal 3:7-14

The Lord then told Moses that He was aware of the slavery of the people of Israel and that He was going to do something about it. In fact, He was going to use Moses to deliver them.

¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

¹² And God said, "I will be with you.

¹³ Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" (NIV)

In olden days when you were given a name, the name was carefully chosen. They would not look in a baby book and pick a name. They would not name their baby after a famous movie star. Instead they would pick a name that went along with what the baby was like or what they hoped the baby was like. If the baby was chosen by God for a special job, they might call the baby "chosen by God".

Now in this section we see God telling Moses His name. Do you remember what that name is? I am that I am. This name as well tells us something about our God. It tells us that God is eternal. Eternal means that God has no beginning and He has no end. No one created or made God. No one gave Him life. He always was. No one can destroy God. No one can do away with Him. He always will be.

To help us understand the word eternal think about outer space. It has no beginning, no end. It goes on forever in all directions. This is something like our God who is eternal.

4. Unchanging Exodus 3:15

¹⁵ God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers -- the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob -- has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation. (NIV)

Did you notice what God said about His name? It is His name forever. From generation to generation He will be the same. That's because God is unchanging. He won't be strong one day and weak the next. He won't be loving one day and hating the next. He won't be holy one day and common the next. Our God is unchanging and because He is unchanging we can count on Him. We change, our parents change, our world changes,

but our God never changes. We can always count on Him. He is like a rock that cannot be moved.

Conclusion

1. Let's review what we have learned about God today from our Bible story.

We said He is holy - set apart, from sin, in power, love, knowledge, there is none like Him.

We said He is awesome - producing fear. When we really come to see who God is, it should cause us to tremble and to truly respect Him.

We said God is eternal - He has no beginning and no end.

We said God is unchanging - all else in life changes, but God remains the same.

2. How do you think we should respond to a God who is eternal, holy, awesome and unchanging? Like Moses we should bow our hearts, humble ourselves, and with God's help seek to live for Him in obedience.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 1

1. Review

If the children have worked on the club theme verse take a few minutes to review it before working on today's memory verse.

2. Explain the verse

Revelation 4:8 ... *"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."*

- What does the word holy mean? (Set apart, unlike another, separate from sin.)
- Who is this verse saying is holy? (The Lord God Almighty)
- How long does this verse suggest God has existed? (He has always existed and He will continue to exist forever.)

3. Memorize the verse

Erase a word: Recite the whole verse with the children. If a child can say the verse let him erase one word. Then recite the verse with the group. Continue this procedure until all the words are erased and each child has mastered the verse. Be sure to say the reference before and after the verse.

Lesson Review Questions

1. Where did Moses learn what God was like? (At the burning bush)
2. What does holy mean? (Holy means set apart, like no other, separate from sin)
3. What does awesome mean? (Awesome means that which produces fear or reverence.)
4. What do we mean by eternal? (Having no beginning and no end.)
5. What do we mean by unchanging? (God is always the same.)
6. How should we respond to a God who is holy, awesome, eternal and unchanging? (We should bow before Him and pledge our obedience to Him.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 2 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Matthew 19:16-22

Q&A: How do I know that I am a sinner? The law of God shows me.

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Be able to state that the purpose of the law was and is to make us sensible to sin.
2. Consider his sinfulness and turn to Christ.

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Introduction

1. When you get up in the morning how can you tell what you look like? Many of us look in a mirror. The mirror will help us become aware of what problems we have: messy hair, gook in our eyes, pizza sauce from last night's meal, (when you get a little older) a pimple here or there. A mirror is great at helping us know how we are looking on the outside.
2. At times we need help knowing how we look on the inside, too, and for this we need a special kind of mirror or scope. A friend of mine had been fighting cancer and for some time he had a fever which the doctors could not find the source of. In order to see what my friend looked like on the inside they sent a scope down into his lungs. Now they could see what was causing the problem and could try to do something about it.
3. Did you know that our Bible is like a mirror - not a mirror for seeing what our face or lungs look like, but a mirror for seeing what our actions look like to God and also what our hearts look like?
4. Jesus used a special part of the Bible called the law with a young man to show him some important things about himself that he really did not see. Let's see what Jesus showed him and how the man responded.

Body

1. The rich, young ruler comes to Jesus Matthew 19:16

One day a man came up to Jesus. He was no ordinary man for he was young man who was very rich and who was already a ruler. At such a young age this man seemed to have a lot going for him.

When he found Jesus he asked, "Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?" It seemed that this young man not only had many good things going for

him but he also was concerned about more than just this life. He wanted to know how he could be acceptable to God and have the hope of being with God forever.

2. Jesus confronts the man with the law Matthew 19:17-21

Jesus was not impressed with all this, though He would come to love this man. Jesus owned **all** things and He was the **greatest** ruler. The man had nothing and was nothing compared to Jesus. Besides Jesus saw some very dark things in the heart of this man. This man thought he was pretty good and thought that by doing some good thing he could be made right with God. He was terribly mistaken.

So Jesus asked him, *“Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments.”* You see Jesus knew that this man had no idea what it was to be good. There was only one that is good and that is God. Everyone else falls way short. Jesus had to show this man that he was not good and did not even know what goodness was. To do that Jesus told him to keep the commandments.

Now why would Jesus say that in order to have life you must keep the commandments? Are we made right with God by keeping the commandments? (Allow for discussion) The fact is none of us can keep the commandments. In our hearts we want to go our own way and we do. Jesus told the man to keep the commandments because He wanted to show the man how sinful he was. That's what the law is good at doing. It makes us aware of our sin. It would be similar to my pointing to our club rules and then asking if you are keeping them. By pointing to the rules I am helping you see that you have been a rule breaker. Let's get back to our story.

18 So the man asked, “Which ones?”

Jesus replied” ‘Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, 19 honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’”

20 “All these I have kept,” the young man said. “What do I still lack?”

As you can see the man still did not get the point. He probably really thought he had kept all the commandments. He probably never stole or murdered or told lies in court. On the outside he looked good, but he really had no idea how he was in the inside - in his heart. Jesus would now have to bring the mirror of the law into his heart.

Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” With these words Jesus showed the man that he was far from good; that he was far from keeping the two commandments that sum up all the other commandments, and that is to love God with your all and your neighbor as yourself. The man was full of love for his money and the comfort and pleasure that goes along with that, and he was not really loving his neighbor as himself. He loved himself far too much, so when Jesus told him to sell all he had, give to the poor and come follow him, he was hit with his true heart condition.

3. The man's response Matthew 19:22

The Bible tells us: *When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.* When Jesus showed him what his heart was really like, that it was full of love of self and not God and others, he walked away saddened.

Application

1. You know the Word of God; especially the commandments are like a target. The center of the target is the way God wants us to live, loving God and others. That is what we are to aim for in life. That is what God made us for. The target, however, is sure to show us that we have missed the mark. Sometimes we hit the mark, but most of the time we miss. The Law of God is just like that - it will show us that we've missed God's mark.
2. How should we respond to this? Should we be like the rich, young ruler? When Jesus, through the law, showed him what really was in his heart, he walked away saddened, but he should have done something different. He should have humbled himself before Jesus and kept looking to Him for help.
3. Children, God has given us His Bible, and especially the commandments, to show us our sinfulness. When God opens your eyes to your sinfulness, don't turn away from Jesus. Instead turn to Him and ask for His mercy, forgiveness and power to live in a way pleasing to God.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Time Instructions
Lesson 2

1. Review

Review lesson one question and answer and memory verse. Give each child a chance to review this material. It is appropriate to ask them a few questions about the meaning. Refer to your handbook for this.

2. Explain the new verse

Romans 3:20 ... *through the law we become conscious of sin.*

- Define law for the children. Tell them the law has to do with what God commands. The 10 commandments are a very important part of the law.
- Define the word “conscious”. Conscious means to be aware of something.
- Help students see that this verse teaches us that the purpose of the law is to make us aware of our sinfulness.

3. Memorize the verse

Erase a word: Recite the whole verse with the children. If a child can say the verse let them erase one word. Then recite the verse with the group. Continue this procedure until all the words are erased and each child has mastered the verse. Be sure to say the reference before and after the verse.

Lesson Review Questions

1. Who came across Jesus' path one day? (A rich young ruler)
2. What did the ruler ask Jesus? (What he needed to do to obtain eternal life)
3. What was Jesus' answer? (Obey the commandments)
4. Can a person really obtain eternal life by keeping the commandments? (No)
5. Why did Jesus suggest that the man could obtain eternal life by keeping the commandments? (He wanted to show the man that he was far from keeping the commandments. He wanted to show the man his sinful heart.)
6. How did the man respond to Jesus? (He walked away saddened)
7. How should we respond when Jesus through the law shows us our sinfulness? (We must humble ourselves before Jesus and seek His mercies.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 3 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Genesis 1

Q&A: Did God create sinful people? No, God created man in His image and said man was good.

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Come to understand that when God made the world He made all things without sin.
2. Be able to relate that being made in God's image means that we are made to reflect God in our world.

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Introduction

1. In our first lesson we described God in four ways. What were they?

- A. Holy - set apart in power and wisdom and from sin
- B. Eternal - no beginning and no end
- C. Awesome - something so mighty that it produces fear and trembling
- D. Unchanging - always the same

With this description we tried to show that God is a mighty God, unlike any other being, who is wholly separate from sin.

2. In our second lesson we saw that all men are sinners. How do we come to know that we are sinners? Our lesson said that the law of God shows us. When we have the commands of God placed before us we realize we have not lived as God has wanted us to.

3. Now when we think of these first two lessons together a question comes to mind? It is our question for today: Did God make sinful people? The fact is God is the creator of all things. It is also a fact that all men are sinners. Is it true then that God made sinful people?

4. To answer our question we have to go to the very first chapter of the very first book of our Bible, the book of Genesis, and carefully see what God tells us.

Body

1. In the beginning

The Bible begins with the words, "In the beginning God...". I want you to close your eyes for a moment and imagine what this might have been like. Before God created anything there was nothing - no sky, no sun, no plants or animals, no grass, no mountains, not one thing. Only God existed as He always existed. He was the same God: eternal, holy, awesome and unchanging.

2. God begins creation

Then one day God put His plan into motion. He was going to create something very special, so He spoke and with a word created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth at this time was covered with water and darkness.

3. The six days of creation

Now I am going to read to you what God created on each day of His creation. After I read I want you to tell me what He created and what He thought or said about it, if anything.

Day 1

(Note to teacher: It would be good to make a chart that can be filled out with what God created each day and what He thought or said about it.)

Genesis 1:3-5 *And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.*

What did God make on day 1? (Light) What did He think or say about it? (Saw it was good)

Day 2

Genesis 1:6-8 *And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." 7 So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. 8 God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.*

What did God make on day 2? (He made the expanse separating the waters) What did He think or say about it? (Nothing)

Day 3

Genesis 1:9-13 *And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. 10 God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.*

11 Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. 12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

What did God make on the third day? (The land with plants and trees) What did He say about them? (They were good)

Now why do you think God said it was “good”? I think He said it for two reasons. First because what He made was like Him. God looked at what He had made and thought that this surely will show my greatness, power, purity, and wisdom. Secondly, God said it was good because He knew that He was creating it to be enjoyed by someone who would be special to Him. Let’s go on with our story and see.

Day 4

Genesis 1:14-19 *And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, 15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. 16 God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. 17 God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, 18 to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.*

What did God make on the 4th day? (Sun, moon and stars) What did He say about them? (They are good)

Day 5

Genesis 1:20-23 *And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.” 21 So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” 23 And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.*

What did God make on day 5? (Water animals and birds) What did God say about it? (It was good)

Day 6

Genesis 1:24-25 *And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. 25 God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.*

What did God make on the 6th day? (Land animals) What did He say about it? (It was good)

4. God creates man in His own image

Now as we can see God made everything. All plants, trees, water, sky, stars... everything only exists because God caused it to exist. We can also see that everything God made was good. Isn’t that what you would expect? Wouldn’t a good God make things good?

But God was not finished with His work. He had one more creation. In fact it was His masterpiece. He would create a man and a woman who would be able to take everything good that He had created and ruin it. He had one more work and it was to create sinful man. Is that right?

The truth is that God did exactly the opposite. He had made the world in a wonderful way, but when God made man He made him in the most wonderful way. Our Bible tells us that God made man in His image. The God who is eternal, holy, awesome and unchanging made man in His image. He made nothing else like this, but He did make man in His likeness. And what that meant is that man, above all creation, would be able to reflect God's likeness more than anything else God had created.

Illustration: Hang a sheet up in the room. You stand on one side and have a child stand on the other side. With the sheet in the way the child cannot know what lies on the other side of the sheet. If, however, you place a mirror at one of the ends of the sheet, the child will be able to get a glimpse of who is on the other side. In the same way, God made man to reflect Him. Men without God cannot see God, but can see God in the words and behavior of one in whom God lives. That is what it means to be made in God's image.

After God made man in His image He told him to be fruitful and multiply and to rule the earth. Then He looked back on what He had made and He said, "It is very good!"

Conclusion

1. From our lesson today what can we say about all that God had made? It is GOOD! Does that include man? Absolutely, in fact man was made in God's image and after He was created God said all was VERY GOOD!

2. Are all things good now? No - something has happened to make things as they are today. Next week we shall talk about that.

But I do have some good news. God is working to bring things back to what they were. One day God is going to make a new heaven and a new earth free from all the problems like pollution. Before He does that, however, He wants to bring you back to what He made you in the first place. He wants to come and live inside you and begin restoring you. That's what being a Christian is all about.

3. How can you begin reflecting God's image in your world? The best way is by loving others. (Encourage children to discuss how they can be lovers of others.)

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Time Instruction
Lesson 3

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verse for lessons 1 and 2. Give a few children a chance to give the answers and then as a group recite the answers. Do not spend a great deal of time on this.

2. Explain the new verse

Genesis 1:31 *God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.*

Since there are no difficult words in this verse simply ask the following questions:

- When did God see that all was very good? (After He had created man and all other things.)
- What do you think the words “very good” mean? (It would reflect God’s character and be just what man would need.)

3. Memorize the verse

Ping Pong: Divide your group into two teams. Use your finger to represent the ping pong ball. Point to each team -- that team will say one word (or two) each time the finger points to them. Continue to do this through the verse several times until the verse is learned.

Lesson Review Questions

1. How many days did it take for God to create the heaven and the earth? (Six)
2. What did God say about everything He had made? (It is good.)
3. On what day did God make man? (the sixth day)
4. Did God create man to be evil? How do you know? (No, God created man in His image and said that it was good.)
5. What does it mean to be created in God’s image? (We were created to reflect God’s character in the world.)
6. What is one way you can begin to show God’s character in the world? (With God’s help, we can begin loving others the way Christ loved us.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 4 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Genesis 1:26-3:7

Q&A: How did we become sinners? We became sinners through our disobedience to God

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Be able to relate how all men became sinners.
2. Define disobedience as man's attempt to be his own god.

Doc:\lkc\les4-11

Introduction:

1. Mirror illustration: What is this that I have in my hand? What is it used for? (It is used to reflect \ show what another object looks like.) (Take a moment and clean the mirror so that it really shines.)

What would happen, though, if I took mud and wiped it all over the mirror? Would the mirror be able to give us a good reflection? Probably not. In fact the reflection would be pretty miserable.

2. Two weeks ago in our Bible time we said that we are all sinners. How did we know we are sinners? Yes, the law of God shows us. The law says we should love God with our all and that we should love our neighbor as ourselves, but we all know that we do not do this. (We fight with our brothers and sisters, we take the biggest piece of cake, we ignore God and make baseball or soccer more important than Him, and we steal or cheat or call others bad names...)

Last week we asked the question if God created sinful people. We wanted to know if God, who created all things, was responsible for making us sinful at heart. Do you remember what we said? We said that God made us in His image and said that man was good. In fact when God made us he made us like a clean mirror. We were made to reflect God's image. People should be able to look at us and see what God is like.

But something happened. Instead of being like the clean mirror we are more like the dirty mirror. People look at us and have a hard time seeing God. Instead they see a lot of selfishness. They see us going our own way, doing our own thing. They don't see the love and compassion of God in our lives. How did this happen?

3. Today we want to look at the question, "How did we become sinners?" If God did not create us sinful, how did we become so? Let's look at the very first book in the Bible to help us. Do you know what the first book in the Bible is? (Genesis)

Body

1. As we said last week God created everything, including man and woman, and said that all was very good. After God finished His creation one could look at the stars and the moon, the trees and the mountains and see the greatness of the God who made them all. One could also look at Adam and Eve and see the reflection of God. As Adam and Eve related to one another you could see the love, kindness and mercy of God. God was being honored by all that He had made.

Illustration: Did you ever paint a picture or make a model car or make something with LEGOS and then afterwards be honored by others who viewed your creation? This is the way it was to be with God. He had made all things and all who viewed it would look at it and honor Him.

2. Now after God made Adam and Eve, He gave them one rule. They could eat of any fruit tree in the garden, but they could not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they ate of it God said they would surely die.

Now why was God giving the rules? Why didn't Adam and Eve give the rules? The reason is that God was the Creator and as Creator He had the right to make up the rules. As creatures Adam and Eve had the responsibility of obeying.

But why did God give them a rule? What purpose would that serve? Wouldn't it be better to have no rules? You see God gave them just one rule. If they kept this rule they would show their love for God. They would show that they realized that He was their Creator and as Creator He had a right to their obedience. And when they lived in obedience they would honor God because they would be showing Him to be the one in charge. For a time this is exactly what happened.

3. Then one day the serpent came into the garden. The Bible says that he was craftier or trickier than any other creature. The serpent went to Eve and asked **if** God had indeed said that they could not eat of any tree of the garden. With this he tried to raise doubt in her mind.

Application: Remember that this is how the devil works. He will always raise doubts in our mind. When we are about to do something wrong or unkind or unloving he will always make us doubt if there is really anything wrong with it.

4. Eve answered the serpent saying that they could eat freely from the trees of the garden except they could not eat or touch the tree in the middle of the garden. She said that if they did this they would die.

5. The serpent then attacked harder. He said that she would not die. In fact he suggested that God was just trying to keep something from her. The serpent said that if they ate they then would be like God and God didn't want that. Do you see what the serpent did this time? He deceived or tricked her into thinking that God wasn't such a good God after all and that His rules are designed just to keep good things from her. Remember this the next time you are tempted.

6. At that point Eve looked at the tree in the middle of the garden. She saw it was good for food. She saw it was a delight to the eyes. She saw that it could make one wise,

perhaps just like God. So she took from the tree and she ate. Then she gave to her husband and he ate.

7. (At this time rub mud all over the mirror) At that moment something terrible happened. When Adam and Eve disobeyed they and all their children forever became sinners. Instead of being a clean mirror it was as if thick mud was spread all over them. They could no longer honor God and reflect His image in the world. Adam and Eve and all those who would be born would have a great big problem. They had been made to reflect God and to honor Him, but now they were sinners unable to do so.

Application

What do we learn?

1. How did Adam and Eve become sinners? They became sinners through disobedience to God. How do we become sinners? We are born sinners. We are born with a nature that is bent toward disobedience. And if we live long enough we too will act out our disobedience.

But what really is disobedience? It is wanting to be our own god. It is wanting to rule our own life thinking that we can do a better job than the one who made us. Children, God made you and He knows what is best for you. All of His rules are for your own good. It is so important for all of us to let Him rule in our life.

2. When we are disobedient to God and unloving to others we aren't living for the purpose God created us. We were created to honor God with our lives. We were created to show others what God is like with our holy behavior. But all of us are sinners because of disobedience to God. How then can we become again what God wants us to be? Only by Jesus coming and wiping away all our sin and then coming to live inside of us to help us live the way God wants us to.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Time Instruction
Lesson 4

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verse for lessons 2 and 3. Remind children that the law shows us all to be sinners but it is not God who made us so. All His creation was good. Give individual children an opportunity to recite and then recite as a whole group. Do not take a great deal of time for this.

2. Explain the new verse

Romans 3:23 ...*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*

- What does it mean to “have sinned”? What is sin? Sin is disobedience; it is going our way instead of God’s. It is taking rule over our life when really God should be our ruler.
- What does it mean to “fall short of the glory of God”? We were made in God’s image, to show the world what God is like. Because we sin, however, we do not represent God very well in our world.

3. Memorize the verse

Bean bag toss: Sit in a circle and give the first child a bean bag. He is to say the reference of the verse and then toss the bean bag to anyone else in the group. When that person catches the bean bag, he is to say the next word and then pass it on. Keep passing the bean bag until the verse is completely said. Try to make sure all children stay involved. To insure this you might want to say that once a person has caught the bean bag once they can not catch it again until the next round.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What one rule did God give to Adam and Eve? (They could not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.)
2. Why was it right for God to make rules for Adam and Eve? (He was their Creator and the Creator has the right to rule His creatures.)
3. How did Satan try to trick Adam and Eve? (He brought doubt into their minds and then deceived them.)
4. How did men become sinners? (Through the disobedience of Adam and Eve all men became sinners.)
5. What was man not able to do after he sinned? (He was not able to reflect God’s character.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 5 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Genesis 3:8-24

Q&A: What is the penalty of sin? The penalty of sin is death.

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Be able to define death as separation and relate several separations that took place as a result of Adam and Eve's sin.
2. Recognize the tragic consequences of sin and grow in his hatred of sin.

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Introduction

1. In our world we have lots of rules and with many of the rules there is a penalty or something you have to pay if you break the rules. Can any of you share with me some rules that you are aware of and tell me the penalty if you know it?

- Speeding in your car results in paying a fine
- Parking in a no parking area costs \$50.00, sometimes more.
- Playing with fire could result in damage or harm. When I was about 5 I played with fire while our blind piano tuner was working on our piano. I nearly burned the house down. I burnt the carpet and I was punished by my mother.

The fact is many rules have a penalty attached to them if they are not followed.

2. Last week we told you about a rule that God gave to Adam and Eve. Does anyone remember what that rule was? (Do not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil) Does anyone know what the penalty was if they disobeyed? (God said that they would die) Does anyone also remember why God gave them a rule? (God gave Adam and Eve one rule so that they could show if they truly loved God above all else.)

3. But what happened? The serpent came and brought doubt into Eve's head. He made her wonder if God really said what she thought he said. Then the serpent told her that God had lied. He suggested that God was trying to keep something from her and that she surely would not die.

Was the serpent right? Would she really die? Would there really be a penalty for sin? Let's continue our story now and see what happened.

Body

1. Eve thought about what the serpent said. She looked at the fruit and saw that it was good for food, delightful to the eyes, and good to make one wise. Perhaps she thought it might be true that God was trying to keep something from her. So she took and ate and then gave to Adam and he ate.

At that moment, Adam and Eve and all their descendants became sinners. They who had been made to show God's image to the world had their image (mirrors) smeared with mud.

But they didn't die, did they? When they ate the apple they didn't keel over and die, did they? ...Or did they?

2. Now to really answer that question you have to answer another question: what is death? Death is separation. For example when a person dies there is the separation of his body from his soul. There are other kinds of deaths as well. When a Jewish person became a Christian often his parents would consider him dead. This person would be separated from his parents. Though not really dead, his relationship with his parents would be as good as dead.

As we look at what happened let's look at what kinds of separation or death we see occurring.

3. As soon as Adam and Eve sinned the Bible said their eyes were opened and they realized they were naked. So they quickly got fig leaves and sewed them together and covered themselves. They were ashamed of their naked bodies. Do you see what sin did? Before that Adam and Eve had no shame; now that sin came there was a separation in their relationship. They tried to hide their bodies from one another.

4. Next the Bible tells us that Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden. And what did they do? They hid themselves. For the first time since their creation they were now hiding themselves from their Creator. Sin had brought a death to their relationship. Listen to what happened next.

Genesis 3:9-13 ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

¹⁰ He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

¹¹ And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

¹² The man said, "The woman you put here with me -- she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." (NIV)

Do you see what sin has done? Not only did it result in man hiding himself from each other and from God, but it also resulted in man blaming each other. Sin brings about many deaths or separations.

5. Sin had other consequences as well. As I read what happens next be ready to tell me what were some of the punishments God handed out.

Genesis 3:14-19

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

What was the punishment given to the serpent - God condemned him to crawl on his belly among the dust. He promised the devil that one day a child of woman (Jesus Christ) would crush his head.

16 To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

What was the punishment given to the woman - God said in childbirth she would have pain. There would also be conflict between husband and wife. (Evidence of the separation caused by sin)

17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.

18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you and you will eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

What was the punishment given to the man - Man's work would now be a labor. It would be hard to produce food from the ground. Also in time man would return to the dust. He would die physically. His body would be separated from their soul.

6. After this judgment, God killed an animal and made clothes for Adam and Eve. This was the first death in the animal world and it showed that even between man and creation there was a kind of separation or death.

7. Finally God drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden. Here was a place that had been especially made for them and now they were being separated from this place.

Was there a penalty for sin? Yes there was. The penalty was death. Not only physical death, but a separation between man and woman, man and creation, man and God...

Application

1. Sin has a penalty and the penalty is death. Not only is this a physical death but it is a death or separation in many of our relationships or friendships. Sin causes fights between friends at school or club; it causes fights or separations between family members. Sometimes sin causes a mom and dad to separate; it causes a death to come between them. Sin also causes problems in the world. We abuse the water and animals, we pollute things, and we cause all kinds of problems or death around us.

But the worst death is our separation from God. Sin causes a break in our friendship with God. We are separated from Him, from His care, from His love and something needs to be done about it.

This is why we need Jesus to wipe away our sins, get us right with God again and to begin fixing those relationships that sin is every day trying to tear apart.

2. Do you know Jesus? Has He come into your life and taken care of your sin problem? Do you hate sin? Do you see what terrible penalties we must pay because of sin? How I encourage you to not play with sin. It brings death. Instead give your life to Christ and seek His help to live in obedience to the God who made you. His way is best!

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Time Instruction
Lesson 5

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verse for lessons 3 and 4. Remind children that when God made man He made him in His own image and that He said man was good. Sadly man through his disobedience became a sinner. Allow a few individual children to recite their lessons and then recite it as a whole group. Do not take a great deal of time for this.

2. Explain the new verse

Romans 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death...*

- Explain what the word “wages” means. According to Webster’s Dictionary it is a reward or that which is given in return for something else. For example their father probably gets a wage paid in money in return for the work he does for the company. A wage is also like a consequence which can be bad or good. The wage of eating too much candy might be a stomach ache or lots of cavities.
- Explain what sin is. Sin is lawlessness, it is going our own way instead of God’s way, it is not hitting God’s standard... It is saying that we know how to run our life better than the One who made us.
- Talk with children about what they think death is. Our lesson will fill out the concept of death in greater detail.
- Help children see that this verse is saying that the reward or consequence of going our own way is death.

3. Memorize the verse

Flip a coin. Divide your group into two groups. Assign one group to be the “heads” group and the other the “tails”. Practice saying the verse together several times then flip a coin. If it lands on heads, let the heads group recite the verse. If it lands on tails let the tails group say the verse. Repeat this until everyone has the verse memorized well.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What is a simple definition for the word ‘death’? (Separation)
2. What kind of deaths (separations) came as a result of sin? (Separation between man and man, God and man, and man and creation.)
3. What was the penalty of sin for the serpent? (Crawl on the ground; head crushed)
4. What was the penalty of sin for the woman? (Pain in childbirth; difficulty in her relationship with her husband.)
5. What was the penalty of sin for man? (Work became very hard; physical death)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 6 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: John 5:1-16, 31-47

Q&A: Who can save us from sin and its penalty? Only Jesus Christ can save us.

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Be confronted with his hopelessness and helplessness to save himself.
2. Be able to relate the 4 proofs that point to Jesus being the only Savior of the world.

Doc:\kcl\les6-11

Introduction

1. Imagine yourself in a pit - 50 feet deep, dark, and muggy - with nothing but the clothes on your back. What are the chances that you could save yourself from this problem? (Allow discussion) Perhaps if you had a friend who knew of your problem and didn't have the same problem, he could lower a rope and save you.

Now imagine being in that pit but this time being dead. What are the chances now that you could save yourself from this problem? (Allow discussion) Again maybe a friend could figure out a way to get you out of the pit, but this time he could do nothing about your being dead. The only way you could be helped would be if your friend had power over life and death.

2. Over the past few weeks we have been talking about our problem which is far worse than being in a 50 feet pit with nothing but the clothes on our backs. That problem is our sinfulness, and it has resulted in death or separation in our relationship to God, each other, and the creation. And the fact is, we can do nothing about this because we are like dead man in the pit of sin. The Bible says we are dead in our sins. Do we have any reason to hope? Can anyone save us?

Body

1. Jesus cures the man at the pool of Bethesda John 5:1-16

I imagine these were the same questions a man had during the days Jesus walked the earth. You see this man had been sick for 38 years, and I am sure during those years that he had tried just about every possible cure. I am sure he went to doctors to see if they could heal him. He probably tried grandma's chicken soup and other home remedies. I am sure he talked with his friends and as many knowledgeable people as he could, but try as he may, he found no cure. In fact as time went on he found himself getting weaker and weaker. His situation seemed hopeless.

Like many people who have incurable diseases this man was ready to try anything. He had heard that there was a pool in Jerusalem where people were getting healed. Sick people, blind, lame and paralyzed people would come to this place and just wait, for rumor had it that angels came down to the pool and stirred the water and the first person in the pool was healed. So this man went down to this pool in hopes of finally being cured.

Sadly, nothing came of this. He had been sick so long that he was very weak and every time the pool stirred he could never get himself down to the pool. Someone would always get there first. I am sure he felt very badly and began to feel that there was no hope.

One day, however, a very important person passed his way. Do you know who it was? Yes, it was Jesus. When Jesus saw him lying by the pool, knowing he had been there a long time, he asked him if he wanted to get well. To Jesus' question the man shared his problem - every time he tried to get to the pool someone would step in before him.

Hearing these words Jesus told the man, "Rise, take up your bed and walk" and do you know what happened? That man who was hopelessly sick, who had probably tried every possible cure, was **immediately** made well. He took up his bed and walked, completely cured.

Do you know children that we all have a problem like that sick man? We, too, are sick - not in our body, but in our heart. We are sick with sin. And the fact is, try as we might to free ourselves from sin and its penalty, we cannot do it. We can try to please God and get Him on our side by doing good things, but it just doesn't work. We can try to get help from our friends or other people who have a lot of knowledge, but this, too, can do no good in dealing with our sin problem. The fact is there is no help from anyone or anything in this earth. We are all **dead** in our sins.

That's why God in love sent His Son, Jesus Christ. He alone has the power over sin and death. Just as He was the only solution for the man at the pool, so He is the only solution for us.

But how do we know Jesus is able to save us from sin and its penalty? How do we know He's the man?

B. Witnesses to Jesus' Messiahship 5:31-47

Long ago, when man first sinned, God had promised to help His people. He said that He would send someone into the world who would be like light going into darkness. This one would come and save God's people from their sin and its consequences. But how would people know who this One sent from God was?

Shortly after Jesus healed the man at the pool Jesus answered this question in front of a number of people who doubted He was from God. Jesus told them that God had given at least 4 witnesses that He is the deliverer and there is none other.

A. The first witness was John the Baptist. He had been given a job from God to go before Jesus and tell people to get ready because God's Kingdom was coming. As soon as John baptized Jesus and found out who he was, John went around pointing people to Jesus claiming that Jesus was the One sent from God to save us.

B. The second witness was the miracles Jesus performed. What other man in all the history did what Jesus did? He made the blind see, the deaf to hear, the dumb to speak, the lame to walk, he even raised some from the dead. And if this were not enough he arose from the dead. All these miracles point to Jesus and only Jesus being this special messenger from God.

C. The third witness was God Himself. At least 2 times if not 3, God spoke from heaven in front of numbers of people and said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

D. The final witness is the Word of God. From Genesis to the book of Revelation everything points to Jesus Christ as God's special deliverer, the One, sent from God, to deliver us from sin and its penalty.

Conclusion

We all are in a pit, the pit of sin, and we are dead. We are completely unable to help ourselves. Our friends may want to help us but they, too, are in a pit and besides none of them has the power of life and death.

God saw us in our pit and knowing there was no force on earth that could help, He sent His Son, giving witness of His ability to save by John the Baptist, miracles, the voice of God and Scriptures. All of these things witness to the fact that He alone has power over sin and death; He alone is our hope. Have you looked to Him for help? Have you looked to Him alone to save you from sin and its penalty and to begin to make new your life? I urge you to come to the only pool where you will find mercy and healing from your sin.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 6

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verse for lessons 4 and 5. Give a few children a chance to give the answers and then as a group recite the answers. Do not spend a great deal of time on this.

2. Explain the new verse

John 14:6 *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

- What three things did Jesus say he was? (The way, truth and the life)
- is there more than one way to God? (No) How do you know? (Jesus said no one comes except through Him.)
- What does Jesus mean by "come to the Father"? (Come to be accepted by God; come to be God's son.)

3. Memorize the verse

Add a word: Divide the team into two groups. Have one group say the first word only - then the other team should say that word plus the next word. Each time the team has a turn, they repeat all that has been said previously and add **one word**. Do this several times until the verse is learned.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What problem did the man at the pool have? (He had a disease that he could not find a cure for.)
2. What did he try to do to get rid of his disease? (He tried everything. His last effort was to try to get into this pool which some said brought healing at times.)
3. Who was finally able to bring a cure to this man? (Jesus)
4. How are we like this man? (We have an incurable disease, sin, which we cannot find a cure for by ourselves.)
5. How did God show that Jesus was the One He sent to cure us of our sin problem? (He bore witness through John the Baptist, the miracles, the voice from heaven, and the Scriptures.)
6. Have you received your cure from sin? Have you come to Jesus for forgiveness of sin and for new life?

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 7 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: John 3:1-15

Q&A: Is everyone automatically saved? No - only those who trust in Christ are saved.

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Admit his sinfulness and inability to do anything about it
2. Place his trust in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and for new life.

Doc: \kcl\les7-11

Introduction

1. Have you ever been to Niagara Falls? They say it is a beautiful place to visit. Gallons and gallons of water rushing over a cliff, falling hundreds of feet. So spectacular is this sight that people visit it by the thousands, even during the winter.

During the winter it is especially wonderful to visit the Falls. During the cold months something fascinating occurs. As the water rushes over the cliff, some of it sprays in the air. As it travels in the air it freezes and falls back to the water surface. If it is cold enough in time an ice bridge forms over the Falls. If you are a brave soul you might venture to walk on it and enjoy an even more spectacular view.

One cold winter several couples came to visit the Falls. To their delight an ice bridge had formed. They found a well-trained guide to take them to the sight. The guide led them onto the bridge and then pointed out some of the magnificent sites.

Suddenly there was a huge crack. A piece of the ice bridge had broken away. Then another crack and more pieces broke away. The guide and the couples knew they were in danger. Quickly the trained guide told the couples to follow Him, that He knew the way to safety. At that moment each couple had to make a decision. Would they follow this guide or would they go their own way?

Several of the couples followed the guide who led them to safety, but one couple decided to go their own way. The result was tragic - they fell to a terrible death.

2. Two weeks ago we learned that we were in danger. We said that we are all sinners and that the penalty of sin is death, that is separation in our relationship with God, and if something isn't done about this we ourselves will be cast down into hell.

Last week, however, we said we have hope. We said Jesus alone can save us from sin and its penalty. There is a way to safety in God's Kingdom. There is a way to be brought back to God.

But the question for today is, "Is everyone automatically saved?" Jesus can save us but are we automatically saved? Like the people in our story, they all knew they were in danger, but not all of them were saved. What was the difference?

3. Our story today taken from John 3 will help us understand what it takes to be saved from the danger we are all in because of sin.

Body

1. One day a very important man named Nicodemus came to Jesus at night. He was a ruler among a group of Jews called Pharisees who were very strict about keeping the commandments of God. In many ways they were proud of the fact of how hard they tried. They thought that they were all right with God because they were sons of Abraham who sought to keep the law. They also knew the Bible very well. They expected that one day God would send someone from heaven to set up a Kingdom. This was why they tried to keep the law so hard.

2. So with all this in mind Nicodemus came to Jesus at night and said,

²"Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him."

- Nicodemus was probably wondering if Jesus was the One being sent from God to establish God's Kingdom. He saw the miracles and thought He could be the One.

³In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

- He was saying that Nicodemus couldn't even see the Kingdom of God unless he was born again or from above. There needed to be another birth. Nicodemus wasn't sure what Jesus meant.

⁴"How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"

- He knew what it meant to be born the first time, but what did Jesus mean by being born again or from above? Was Jesus really asking him to hop back into his mommy's tummy?

⁵Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'

- Jesus was saying that He was telling the truth. No one could enter the Kingdom of God or be part of God's family unless he had a natural birth and a spiritual birth - that is, having the Spirit come and live inside. Jesus told him very forcefully that this was not an option. He **must** be born again.
- Jesus went on and said that he should not be surprised by this. A teacher of the law should know these things. Jesus then gave an illustration.

John 3:8 ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." (NIV)

- No one knows where the wind comes from or where it is going. You can't even see it. Then how do you know it's there? By the affect it has on things. Jesus was saying we are born by the Spirit in the same way. We can't see the Spirit. It goes wherever it wants. How do we know it comes to live inside it? By the effect it has on our life. When the Spirit gives us new birth, we become people who begin loving and obeying God from our heart and we begin loving others more, too.
- Well all of this troubled this teacher. So he asked:

John 3:9

⁹"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. (NIV)

- I think Nicodemus wanted to know how he could have this new birth. It would be like us asking how we can be saved from sin and its penalty and be part of the family of God. Jesus answered Nicodemus with another illustration:

John 3:13-15 ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven -- the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (NIV)

- Jesus explained that in Moses' day the people were disobedient to God. So, God sent snakes upon them and when they were bit they died. The scary thing about it was that there was no cure, only certain death. They were absolutely helpless.
- Well the people came to Moses and cried out for help. God heard their cry and in mercy provided a way to escape certain death. He told Moses to put a bronze snake on a pole and raise it high in the air. Then when someone was bitten by a snake, they could turn to it and be healed. Now for someone to do this they had to realize that they were helpless. They had to make the effort to come to the pole and gaze on it believing it was their only hope.
- Jesus told this to Nicodemus because it was true of him. He was like the people bit by the snakes. He was on his way to hell - certain death with no hope. All his rule keeping, even his being a son of Abraham was not enough. Jesus said he must be born again.
- How could he be born again? Simply by realizing that he was in danger because of sin and then turning in faith and trust to the one who like the snake was lifted high on a cross - Jesus. By believing on the Son, by clinging to Him, Nicodemus and all sinners can find new birth.

Conclusion

1. Remember our friends at Niagara Falls. They all were in great danger, but only some were saved from it. Those who trusted in their guide and followed Him were led to safety, the others fell to a gruesome death.

2. All of us are in certain danger, too. We are in danger of the penalty of sin - death or separation from God. Do you realize what great danger you are in? All of us must look to the only One who can save us from sin. We must trust Him and follow Him to safety.

3. Have you come to Jesus Christ - confessed your sin to Him - and asked Him to save you? Have you also determined to follow Him all your life?

Is everyone automatically saved? No - only those who put their trust in Christ are saved. Only those who look to Him in faith as their only hope of being delivered from sin's penalty and power.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 7

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 6. Recite the answer and verse together several times and then let each child recite it. Do not spend a great deal of time on this. If after completing the rest of this exercise time still remains, then you can review other lessons as well.

2. Explain the verse

Acts 16:31 *“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved...”*

- Define believe. (Believe is to trust in Jesus as our sole deliverer from sin and its consequences and to submit our lives to His control.)
- What does it mean to be saved? Saved from what? (Saved from sin’s penalty which is death or separation from God and saved from sin’s power in our life so that we can live a new life pleasing to God.)

3. Memorize the verse

Echo (Echo) - Divide your group into two teams and tell them you are going to play the echo game. Have one team begin by reciting part of the verse and then have the other side “echo” what they heard. Have the first team make their way all the way through the verse and then switch roles.

Lesson Review Questions

1. Who came to Jesus one night? (Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews)
2. What did Jesus tell Nicodemus must happen to him? (He must be born again)
3. What did Jesus mean by “born again”? (He must have a spiritual birth. God’s Spirit must come and live inside him.)
4. Why did Jesus tell the story about the snake on the pole? (He wanted to show Nicodemus his need to look to Jesus for healing from sin)
5. Is everyone automatically saved? (No, only those who come to Jesus in faith and with empty hands will be saved)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 8 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: 1 Kings 18:16-46

Q&A: Is there more than one God? The Bible teaches there is only one true God.

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Come to know that there is only one God.
2. Grow in his desire to serve the one true God with singular devotion

Doc: \\kc\les8-11

Introduction

1. How many gods are there? There seems to be great confusion today. There are so many churches, or temples or shrines in our world. In some countries people have gods that supposedly control all of life's activities. There is a god of the rain, snow, crops, having children, home...

People who believe in many gods are always trying to please one of the gods. If they need rain they sacrifice to the god of rain. If they need sun they sacrifice to the god of sun. Sometimes they run into trouble because by trying to please one god they offend another god and then they are in big trouble.

2. During the O.T. things were similar to this. The people of Egypt had many gods and so did the people of Canaan. But the people of Israel were different. They were to serve and worship one God because he was the true God.

3. But the people of Israel were confused. Actually they were disobedient to the true God who had blessed them with their land and a special relationship with Himself.

They were supposed to go into a special land and show the world that there is only one true God who is to be followed, worshipped, and served. But they didn't do a very good job. When they got into the land they began serving the other false gods of the land. They began trying to please other gods like Baal and His mother Asherah. This did not please the true God at all.

Body

1. In order to get the attention of the people of Israel God chose to send his prophet to the King of Israel whose name was Ahab. Ahab and his wife Jezebel were wicked rulers. They worshipped many false gods and brought in other gods from other lands. They were a big part of the problem. The people often followed their leaders.

2. When the prophet Elijah came to Ahab he said that there would be no rain for 3 years. Can you imagine what life would be like in the US if there weren't rain for 3

years? Dust would be everywhere. There would be a great water shortage. Crops and plants of all kinds would die. We would be in serious trouble. Things got pretty desperate in Israel. That's what God wanted because he wanted the people to come back to Him.

3. After the 3 years God sent Elijah back to Ahab.

1 Kings 18:16-40

¹⁶ So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him, and Ahab went to meet Elijah. ¹⁷ When he saw Elijah, he said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?" (NIV)

- It may be that Ahab and the people thought this lack of water came because Baal was angry with Elijah. Baal was the god of thunder, lightning and storms.

¹⁸ "I have not made trouble for Israel," Elijah replied. "But you and your father's family have. You have abandoned the LORD's commands and have followed the Baals. ¹⁹ Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

- Elijah claimed that the problem was that the God of Israel was not pleased with the wickedness of the rulers and the people. They abandoned God's command which stated that they should worship only the Lord God.

²⁰ So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. ²¹ Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him."

But the people said nothing.

- The people weren't sure who God was? They had been disobedient so long that they didn't really know. They worshipped many gods and had lost sight of the true God. So Elijah proposed a challenge to prove once and for all who God was.

²² Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only one of the LORD's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. ²³ Get two bulls for us. Let them choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. ²⁴ Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by fire -- he is God."

Then all the people said, "What you say is good."

²⁵ Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire."

²⁶ So they took the bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "O Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

²⁷ At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and

must be awakened." ²⁸ So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. ²⁹ Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

³⁰ Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which was in ruins. ³¹ Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." ³² With the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. ³³ He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood.

- Isn't it sad that the altar of the true God had been torn down. This was like a symbol of their faith. It had been torn down, but God was about to build it back up.

Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood."

³⁴ "Do it again," he said, and they did it again.

"Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. ³⁵ The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

³⁶ At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷ Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

³⁸ Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

³⁹ When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The LORD -- he is God! The LORD -- he is God!"

- The people had learned that all these false gods which they were worshipping were nothing. They learned that there is only one true God.

⁴⁰ Then Elijah commanded them, "Seize the prophets of Baal. Don't let anyone get away!" They seized them, and Elijah had them brought down to the Kishon Valley and slaughtered there. (NIV)

- What did Elijah want done with the false gods and their prophets? He wanted them destroyed. When we believe there is only one true God we will not want around any other false gods. We also know that those who promote false gods are really injuring the people.

Conclusion

1. Our question today is, "Is there more than one God?" From our Bible lesson what would you say the answer is? (The Bible teaches that there is only one true God)
2. What difference does it make that there is only one true God? Above all else we should live to please him. We should follow him, worship him, serve him. We should have nothing more important than Him; nothing that we love more than Him - not TV, computer games, friends, family, and above all not ourselves.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 8

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verse for lessons 6 and 7. Recite the answer and verse together several times and then let each child recite it. Check this off on their record sheet.

2. Explain the verse

Deuteronomy 6:4 *Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.*

- Moses is speaking these words. To whom is he speaking them? (Israel)
- How could Israel say the Lord was their God? (God has chosen them to be His special people and have delivered them from slavery in Egypt.)
- What does “the Lord is one” mean? (It means that there is no God like the Lord God and that there is no God but the Lord God.)

3. Memorize the verse

Group response - Divide your team into three groups. Divide the verse into three sections and assign a section to each group. Have each group then read their part in sequence. Read through the verse this way covering up one section at a time. Then repeat the process switching the lines to be read. Finally have the whole group recite the whole verse.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What error did the people of Israel make during the time of Elijah? (They went after the false gods of the Canaanites)
2. How did God try to get the attention of His people? (He brought famine in the land to try and get them to return to true worship)
3. How did Elijah propose to show who the One true God was? (He proposed a contest. The God who sent fire to consume the sacrifice was the One true God)
4. What did Elijah do at his altar to prove all the more that the Lord was God? (He had his altar drenched with water)
5. Why did Elijah have the prophets of Baal killed? (He knew they were harming the people by leading them astray; away from the worship of the true God)
6. What difference should it make knowing that there is only One true God? (We should give the One true God our complete devotion)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 9 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Matthew 6:24-33

Q&A: Why do we call God “Father”? We call God “Father” because He created us, loves us, and provides us with everything we need.

Objectives: By God’s grace each child will

1. Be able to relate three ways God is our Father: He created us, loves us and provides for us.
2. Learn to trust God for all their needs.
3. Seek as a first priority God’s Kingdom and righteousness.

Doc: \\kcl\les9-11

Introduction

1. Do you ever worry? Do you ever get really concerned about something? If so, what are those things that worry you? (Allow leaders to answer first and then children)

Adults worry about many things: jobs - they wonder if their current job will last; money - they wonder if they will be able to pay their bills; children - they wonder if they will grow up and turn out to be OK; health - they wonder if their heart is OK or if they have cancer;...

Children worry about some things, too: friends - they wonder if anyone will like them; safety - they wonder if there is someone in the dark; appearance - they wonder if they are handsome enough or tall enough or muscular enough;...

2. We all have a tendency to worry about something, but is it right for a Christian to worry about things? (Allow for discussion) When Jesus lived on earth He gave an answer to that question in one of His lessons we call the Sermon on the Mount. He told His listeners that they should not worry and then gave them the reason why.

3. Let’s look together at Jesus’ teaching to see why worrying is not the right thing to do.

Body

1. Jesus had been going from place to place teaching the people and healing them of their diseases. As He did this a great group of people began to follow Him. Seeing this as a wonderful opportunity to teach this large group what it meant to be a true member of God’s Kingdom, Jesus went up on a mountain and began speaking to them.

While He was speaking He came to the issue of worrying. He began by saying...

Matthew 6:24 *“No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.*

What Jesus was telling them was that they could not be going in two directions at the same time. That's like if your Mom told you to do one thing and your Dad told you to do another thing, it would present a real problem for you. You could make one of them happy but the other would be upset you didn't do as they wanted. In the same way Jesus was saying that it is impossible to serve God and money at the same time. If you live your life trying to make money, get riches, and own a lot of property you won't be able to serve God as well.

But we all need money to buy things like food, water, clothing, and a house. We have to go after these things, don't we? Listen to what Jesus said next:

Matthew 6:25-27 *“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?”*

Did you understand what Jesus said? He said don't worry about your life - what you are going to eat or what you are going to wear. Aren't there more important things to your life than what you will eat and what you will wear? That's not all we live for, is it? Then Jesus told them to think about the birds in the sky. Do they have reason to worry? They aren't able to plant seeds and then to gather their crops and store them in barns. It seems that if anyone had reason to worry it would be the birds. But Jesus explains that they, too, have no reason to worry because their heavenly Father, - the one who brought all things into being - feeds them. He takes care of their every need.

Jesus then suggested that if God so takes care of the birds, surely He will take even better care of people who are far more valuable to God than birds. Why not worry? Because they have a heavenly Father, one who brought everything into being, one who loves them dearly, who is well able to meet their every need for food and water.

Jesus continued.

Matthew 6:28-30 *“And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?”*

So Jesus gave another example. He asked them why they worry about clothes. Then he told them to think about the lilies or flowers in the field. Do they have reason to worry? They cannot gather wool or other kinds of fabric and they cannot spin things into clothing. If anyone had reason to worry it is the flowers. Again Jesus explained that they have no reason to worry because God clothes them with the most glorious clothing. Flowers are really beautiful, aren't they? Then Jesus reminded the people that if God so clothes flowers that are here today and then tomorrow thrown into a fire, surely those

who are so much more important to Him will be well clothed. Why not worry about clothes? Don't worry because you have a heavenly Father who made all things, who loves you dearly, and who is well able to provide you with all you really need.

Conclusion

Now listen to how Jesus wraps up this lesson.

Matthew 6:31-33 *So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

Jesus told them, "Don't worry about what you are going to eat, drink or wear". That is how people who don't love God live. They are always concerned about the things about this world. They wonder where they will get their next meal and how they will cloth themselves. In our day they are worrying about their job, their health, money, friends, safety and many other things. But Jesus said don't worry about these things! Why?

Christians are not to worry because they have a heavenly Father. He is the one who made everything. He knows exactly what every living things needs to keep on living. He also owns everything. It is all His. But beyond all these wonderful things we know that God loves us and wants to provide us with all we really need. All God wants us to do is trust Him.

Are you trusting Him? Are you trusting your heavenly Father - the one who made you and loves you and wants to provide for you? If you are trusting God you won't be concerning yourself about the things unbelievers concern themselves. Instead you will be concerning yourself with more important things in life. Do you know what they are? Jesus called them "God's Kingdom and His righteousness". In other words Jesus was saying we should work hard to know that we are right with God and are living in a way that pleases Him. When we live seeking these things, the Father promises to take care of the other things.

That is why the creed begins with "I believe in God, the Father...". It reminds us that our God is also our Father, the one who created us and who now loves us and provides us with what we need. Because this is true and because we believe it, we will live differently. We won't live as those who don't know God worrying about all kinds of worldly things. We will leave those things to God. Instead we will give our concern and labor to know God and living for Him. That's a great way to live.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 9

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 8. Give a few children a chance to give answers and then as a group recite the answers. Do not spend a great deal of time on this.

2. Explain the verse

Philippians 4:19 *And my God will meet all your needs ... in Christ Jesus.*

- Paul had written these words to a group of people who had been generous in meeting his needs. What was he promising these people? (That God would supply all their needs)
- What are needs? (Those things we truly need to live both physically and spiritually.)
- Was Paul promising God would give them everything they wanted? (No, we often want much more than we need and often want the wrong things.)

3. Memorize the verse

Cover a word - Write the verse on the chalkboard. Recite it a couple of times together. Then take 2 pieces of tagboard and cover two of the words in the verse. Have a child recite the verse. If he recites it correctly allow him to cover two new words and repeat the process. Give several children a chance to do this. Work on the verse until everyone has it mastered.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What two masters did Jesus say we could not serve at the same time? (God and money)
2. Why shouldn't we worry? (God is our Father and He loves us and is able to provide us with all we need because He owns all things)
3. What examples did Jesus use to show us that we should not worry? (He gave the example of the way God cares for the birds and the lilies of the field)
4. What kind of people did Jesus say worry about food, clothing and drink? (Those who do not know God)
5. What should we be most concerned about in this life? (We should concern ourselves with how we might be made right with God and how we might live in a way that is pleasing to Him)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 10 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Genesis 45:1-15

Q&A: What does God's providence mean to you? Providence means that all things (good and bad) come to me as part of God's plan.

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Be able to share basic understandings of what God's providence is.
2. Give thanks for all things (good and bad) trusting in God's perfect plan.

Doc: \\kc\les10-11

Introduction:

1. I used to work at a Christian Camp where we enjoyed many great activities. Horseback riding, skiing, boating, swimming, tennis... just to name a few.

One summer it was very hot. You might have expected the whole camp to be down by the lake enjoying water sports, but for some reason just a few were there. One 18 year old boy and a friend, though, thought it would be a good idea to go swimming down at the lake. Their good idea, however, turned out to be a tragedy instead.

As the boys were swimming, at another part of camp, a workman was repairing some wires. Some days before, an electrical storm burned out some underground wires. To complete the repair job the workman had to put some wires back together. When he did this, for some unknown reason, electricity traveled through wires that went down a hill, into a breaker box on a building, then onto the dock to a light. It then traveled down the light pole into the water. When the electricity got into the water the two boys, who were swimming near the light pole, were electrocuted. One boy died, the other survived with some minor rehab needed.

What a tragedy for an 18 year old boy to lose his life in such a freaky way. How sad his parents and friends felt. Why had this happened? He was such a good guy. Had God lost control?

2. The fact is bad things happen to us all. People we love die. Accidents happen. People get sick. Parents get divorced. Things get stolen from us or we lose them. Has God lost control when these things happen?

3. Our lesson today is about **providence** which means that "all things, good and bad, come to us as part of God's plan". It means that God never loses control. It means that no matter what happens to us, good or bad, God is working it out according to His plan.

4. We want to look at the story of Joseph from the Bible. Lots of good things happened in his life, but also lots of bad things. Let's look at what these things were and then let's see how Joseph looked at them all. Did he think God lost control?

Body

1. Joseph was a boy who was especially loved by his father, Jacob. In fact, Jacob loved Joseph so much that he gave him a very special coat. Now if your parents gave your brother or sister something very special and did not give it to you as well, how might you feel? Needless to say Joseph's older brothers did not like this. They were jealous.

One day God gave Joseph a special dream. He saw many sheaves in the field. His sheaf stood up among the others and all the others bowed down to it. In other words Joseph's dream suggested that his brothers would one day bow down to him. Do you think Joseph's brothers liked the idea of bowing down to their younger brother? This made them even more jealous.

One day Jacob sent Joseph to see if his brothers were doing all right. They were out in the field tending their flocks. When his brothers saw him coming they conspired together to kill Joseph. One of the brothers didn't like the idea of killing him, so they decided just to throw him in a pit without water. But then something amazing happened- a caravan came by. The brothers thought this was a better way of getting rid of Joseph, so they sold him as a slave to the people in the caravan.

How are things going for Joseph now? Has God lost control? Do you see God's hand in anything that's happened so far? Let's see what happens next.

2. These traders went down to Egypt where they sold Joseph to a man named Potipher. The Bible says, though, that God was with Joseph and made him successful. In fact, in a very short time, Joseph was made Potipher's right hand man. Things were looking up. But before you know it Joseph was falsely accused for having tried to steal away Potipher's wife and he was thrown in jail.

How are things going for Joseph now? Is God in control? Do you see God's hand in any of this?

3. While in jail God again made Joseph successful. In fact the jailer put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners. One day Pharaoh got angry with his cupbearer and his baker and he threw them in jail where Joseph was. They were placed under Joseph's care. One night these two men had dreams which greatly disturbed them. In the morning they looked very sad. Joseph asked them what the problem was and they shared with him their dream. God allowed Joseph to understand what the dreams meant, so Joseph told them. He said one of them would be set free in 3 days, the other killed. He told the one man to remember him when he was set free. But the man forgot all about Joseph and he stayed in prison. How do you think Joseph felt about that?

4. Later Pharaoh had a dream that disturbed him. He saw 7 fat cows being eaten by 7 thin cows. He also saw 7 plump ears of corn swallow up 7 thin ears of corn. He was greatly disturbed by this. At this time the cupbearer (whose dream Joseph had interpreted earlier) remembered Joseph and suggested that Pharaoh ask him for help.

With God's help Joseph interpreted the dream stating that there would be 7 years of great crops in the land followed by 7 years of famine. He suggested to Pharaoh that he should find a man who would store up surplus food during the 7 good years to prepare for the 7 bad years. Pharaoh thought it was a good idea and made Joseph his right hand man.

5. 7 good years came and Joseph stored up much food. Then came the 7 bad years. During the famine Joseph's father and His brothers were running out of food. Jacob sent his sons to Egypt because he had heard that there was food in Egypt. Joseph's brothers came to Egypt and were brought before him. Just as his first dream showed Joseph's brothers bowed before him and asked for food. Joseph recognized who they were but he did not reveal himself.

Instead he played some games with them. He accused them of being spies. He made one of their brothers stay in Egypt while they went to get their littlest brother. When the little brother came he planted a special cup in this brother's bag of grain. Then when they went away he chased after them and accused the little brother of stealing the cup. He said this little brother could not leave Egypt. The older brothers pled with them to let the younger brother go because Jacob would die if he did not return.

6. In the midst of all of this Joseph revealed himself to his brothers. Would he be angry with them and punish them now? No - Joseph wept with them. He said God was in control of all this. Though they meant it for harm, God meant it for good - to preserve the life of the people. Joseph said it wasn't they who sent him to Egypt, but God had done it. Do you think Joseph knew this all the time?

Application

1. Imagine being hated by your brothers, thrown in a pit, sold as a slave. Imagine being falsely accused, thrown into prison, forgotten. This might make you think that God has lost control. You had tried to live right but all these bad things happen to you. You might even grow angry inside at your brothers and at God.

But this was not Joseph's reaction. -Why? Because he believed in God's providence. He believed the good and bad in his life were all part of God's plan.

And what was God's plan? His plan was to preserve the lives of Jacob and his sons. He wanted to preserve them because out of them would come a nation, the people of Israel. And out of Israel would come a savior, Jesus Christ, who would save us from our sin.

All that happened to Joseph fit into God's plan to bring salvation to all men.

2. The same is true for us. All things, good or bad, come to us as part of God's plan which mainly is to bring salvation to this world. The good things that happen in your life are designed to show people the wonderful God you call Father. And even the bad things are designed to show the world who God is and to bring them salvation in Christ.

3. As you go through life, remember that God never loses control and that all that comes to you, good and bad, is part of His good plan to bring salvation to mankind.

(Tapestry example)

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 10

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 9. Give each child a chance to complete this review. Try not to spend a great deal of time on this.

2. Explain the verse

Romans 8:28 *And we know that / in all things / God works for the good / of those who love him...*

- According to this verse in how many things does God work? (In all things)
- Does that include bad as well as good things? (Yes, all things)
- For whom does God work all things for the good of? (All those who love Him)

3. Memorize the verse

Contrast - Divide the verse into phrases (this is done for you above). Have the class say the first phrase loudly, the second phrase softly. Keep alternating all through the verse. Then try a new contrast. Alternate between having the children sit for a phrase and stand for a phrase. If you wish, try the contrast between quickly and slowly. Caution: be sure children exercise respect for the Word of God as they participate in this exercise.

Lesson Time Review Questions

1. What is God's providence? God is in control of all things. Whether good or bad they come to us as part of His plan.
2. What unpleasant things happened to Joseph? He was sold as a slave, falsely accused, jailed, forgotten.
3. Did Joseph think God lost control of his life? Why or why not? No, he felt God brought all things into his life in order to preserve the lives of others. He knew in the end God meant all things for good.
4. What should you think when unpleasant things happen to you? We should trust that God is in control and will see that good comes to those who love Him.

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 11 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2:21-32

Q&A: What does the name “Jesus” mean? The name “Jesus” means Savior.

Objectives: By God’s grace each child will

1. Be able to relate that the name Jesus means savior or God saves.
2. Sense his need of a savior and come to Christ.

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Introduction:

1. How many of you have a name? I am sure all of you have a name. Does your name mean anything? (Allow children to respond) I believe my name, Ron, means mighty ruler, but when my parents gave me that name they weren’t hoping I’d be a mighty ruler. In fact they gave me the name because there was a movie star named Ronald Reagan. It seems that is the way we give names today. We look through a book or think about famous people and then name our children.

In the olden days people weren’t named in that way. In fact when they named somebody, the name they gave told something about that person or said something about the times. Do you know who the first person is who gave somebody a name? It was Adam and he called his wife “woman”. Do you know what that name means? It means “out of man”. He named her in this way because God had taken woman out of man - from his rib. Later he named her Eve which means living or life because she became the mother of all human beings.

Sometimes God gave the name to the person or child being born. In the days of the prophet, Hosea, back in the Old Testament, God told the prophet to name one of his daughters “Lo-Ruhamah” which meant “no mercy”. He also told Hosea to name his son “Lo-Ammi” which means “not my people”. By naming these children this way God was telling the people of Israel that He had had enough of their rebellion. They were now going to be judged. There would be no more mercy; they no longer would be His people. These names brought sad news to the people.

2. In our New Testament we also see God naming children. One child in particular was given a name that did not bring sadness to the people, but in fact brought great joy. Let’s listen to this story and learn what this child’s name teaches us.

Body

1. Our story takes place almost 2000 years ago. The people of Israel were unhappy. Their rebellion to God had led to their being taken from their land and even though they returned to it later, they now found themselves ruled by the Romans. They wished they could be set free from Rome. They thought if this happened all their troubles would be over. They did not lose hope, however, because they thought God one day would send His promised deliverer.

2. Now in this land there was a young girl whose name was Mary. She was engaged to a young man named Joseph. Before they had their marriage ceremony Joseph found out that Mary was pregnant. Being a loving and God-fearing man, Joseph planned to quietly call off the marriage. He did not want to hurt her, though her being pregnant I'm sure was hurtful to him.

While considering what to do, an angel appeared to Joseph. The angel told Joseph not to be afraid to marry Mary because the Holy Spirit was responsible for her being with child. This was a miracle birth. The angel further told Joseph that Mary would have a Son whom they should call Jesus, because he would save the people from their sins.

3. What was the name the angel told Joseph to name their son? Yes, it was Jesus. That name is a Greek name which comes from a Hebrew word which means savior or God saves. Do you think this name brought sadness or joy to Mary and Joseph? Certainly it brought joy to them because it taught them that God was sending someone to save them.

But from what did the angel say they would be saved? He said Jesus would save them from their sins. Though the people wanted to be saved from the Romans, God knew their real problem was not the Romans - it was their sin. It was their sinful rebellion that had brought them to these sad days, but now God was going to help them in the way they really needed help.

4. When the angel went away and Joseph awoke, he did exactly as he was told. He took Mary as his wife and cared for her until this miracle child was born. Do you know what he called him? Yes, he called him Jesus. Do you remember what that name means? It means savior or God saves.

On the 8th day Mary and Joseph took Jesus to Jerusalem to have Him dedicated to the Lord. While there they met a man named Simeon. Simeon was a godly man, full of God's Spirit, who waited for the day God would send His deliverer. God had favored Simeon with the knowledge that he would not die until he had seen the savior. In fact, on this day, God led Simeon to go to the temple.

When Simeon saw Jesus in the temple he knew this was the one; he knew this was the promised one whom he had waited for all his life. So he took Jesus in his arms and he blessed God. He told God that he was ready to depart in peace because now he had seen the salvation of God that would be for all the people. He was full of joy because he had seen the one who would bring light to the Gentiles and who would be the glory of Israel.

Conclusion

1. In Simeon's prayer you can see that he really understood what the world needed. He said Jesus would be a light to the Gentiles. It was true that all non-Jews lived in darkness. They lived in their rebellion to God, in their selfishness, separated from the life of God. Simeon knew Jesus would save them from this and bring them true life.

Simeon also knew that the biggest problem Israel had was not the Romans but their sin. He knew this people was a disgraced people because of their rebellion to God. They had no glory, that is, they did not shine as a nation because of the blotch of their sin. Jesus would bring back the glory by saving them from their sin.

2. The fact is the coming of Jesus our Savior should bring us great joy, too. We, too, are a needy people, not because we have problems in our families, or because we don't have enough of the things we want,... but because we are sinners. We, too, have rebelled against God and have gone our own way. Now we are separated from the light and life of God.

But Jesus came to save us from our sin. He came to give us forgiveness of sins and the power over our selfish ways. Do you see yourself as needy in this way? Then come to Jesus in prayer. He is truly the savior who has come to save His people from their sin. His name should bring us hope and great joy.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 11

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verse for lessons 9 and 10. Give each child a chance to complete this review. Have children help each other as they wait to recite their lessons.

2. Explain the verse

Matthew 1:21 ... you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

- Who said these words and to whom were they spoken? (The angel spoke them to Joseph)
- Why was this baby named “Jesus”? (Jesus means Savior and this baby would save His people)
- From what would Jesus save His people? (Their sins)

3. Memorize the verse

Fill in the blank - Write the complete verse on the board and recite it several times with the children. Next erase 3-4 words and recite the verse again. Replace the erased words and erase 3-4 new words and recite the verse again. Do this until all students have mastered the verse.

Lesson Time Review Questions

1. What does the name “Jesus” mean? (Savior or God Saves)
2. What did the people of Israel think they needed deliverance from? (The Romans)
3. What did the people of Israel really need to be saved from? (Their sins)
4. Why was Simeon so excited about seeing Jesus? (He knew Jesus was God’s salvation for all men.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 1 - Lesson 12 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Matthew 17:1-8

Q&A: Why is Christ (the anointed one) our prophet? Christ is our prophet because he is God's messenger.

Objectives: By God's grace each child will

1. Be able to define what a prophet is.
2. Be able to relate that Jesus is God's most special prophet.
3. Listen obediently to the words of Jesus, the prophet.

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Introduction

1. Who knows who the president of our country is? He is a very important and powerful man, isn't he? People take him from place to place, some are assigned to protect him, some cook and clean for him.

The president often has some very important things to tell us. Sometimes he goes on TV or radio and tells us himself, but other times he lets his press secretary talk for him. Many times during the year the press secretary gathers reporters and speaks on behalf of the president. The reporters are sure to come to these meetings and to listen well because they want to know the message this man has from the president.

2. We know that God is much more important and far more powerful than the president. Remember our word holy - that suggests that God is separate from or far beyond even the most important and powerful people in this world.

God, too, has some very important things to tell us. Now we may be able to go through our life and never hear what the president says, but the fact is if we don't hear God's message to us, we will die in our sins and suffer eternal separation from God.

In olden days, at times, God chose to speak Himself (as He did when He gave the people the 10 commandments) but this was too much for the people to bear. So God from time to time used prophets to share His message with people. A prophet is someone chosen by God who shares God's important message with others.

3. Today we are going to talk about God's most important prophet and see what our response should be to Him.

Body

1. One day Jesus was walking with His disciples and He began to share with them that He must go to Jerusalem where He would suffer, be killed and then raise from the dead.

2. Peter, who was with Him, didn't understand what Jesus meant by rise again, but he sure didn't want Jesus to suffer and die. He and the others thought Jesus was coming to set up His Kingdom and free them from the harsh rule of the Romans. What Jesus said was puzzling to them. What did Jesus mean by what He said? Was He really who they thought He was?

Jesus would answer these questions in the future, little by little.

Matthew 17:1-8

1 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

2 There he was transfigured (changed, transformed) before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.

- For a moment God showed the three a glimpse of what Jesus was like before He came to earth and what He would be like after He arose again. While on the earth His glory was hidden from them, but for this moment God gave them a peek at His glory. This glimpse would convince them that Jesus was the Son of God- the Christ - the one sent from God.

3 Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

- Luke tells us they were talking about the upcoming death of Jesus in Jerusalem.

4 Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

- Peter thought that it was useful for him and the other two to be with Jesus for here were three important people.

Moses was the prophet of old who received the 10 commandments and led the people out of Egypt. He had given them the first 5 books of the O.T.

Elijah was also a very important prophet whom God used to perform numerous miracles. Truly the people considered him to be one of the greatest prophets.

This was incredible, to see these three together. Peter thought it might be a good idea to build a tent for each of them. But it was not to be, because they were about to learn a very important lesson.

5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

- Imagine being surrounded by a bright cloud. Peter and the others knew that God had often showed His presence by a cloud. Then imagine hearing a voice speak saying that Jesus was the beloved Son who pleased the Father. He is the one who is to be listened to above all others. Moses and Elijah, as important as they were, were nothing compared to Jesus. It would be a mistake to put Jesus in their league. They should honor Jesus as the final prophet, the prophet of prophets. He would speak for God. He is the one to listen to.

6 When the disciples heard this, they fell face down to the ground, terrified.

- The Bible tells us that they were very terrified and they fell facedown to the ground. They had seen Jesus transformed, were surrounded by a cloud, and heard the voice of God, and now they were terrified.

7 But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." 8 When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

The three had just experienced something incredible that was designed to help them learn more about Jesus. What had they learned? They learned that Jesus was the Christ - He was the anointed one or the one appointed to be God's final prophet. They learned that He indeed had God's message and that He must be listened to.

Conclusion

1. Do you know that Jesus is the Christ? That He is our appointed prophet, too? The fact is He has a most important message from God for us and we must listen to Him. That message warns us that we are sinners, going our own way and that we are separated from God and under His anger. Fortunately, Jesus' message also gives us hope, for if we turn from our selfishness and place our lives back in His hands He promises to save us from sin and to give us new life. Have you listened to the message of Christ, the prophet, and come to Him for forgiveness and new life?

2. Perhaps some of you have come to Jesus confessing your sins and seeking new life which only He can give. If you have done this, God now has two very important jobs for you. Do you know what they are?

A. The first is to continue to listen to Jesus. He is the Christ, the appointed prophet. His words are words of life. We live by them. Thus we must be people who take time to read His word and listen to what it says.

B. The second job is that God wants you to be His prophet, too. He wants you in your behavior and in your speech to be God's messenger. Others need to hear that Jesus came to save us and they need to see the difference in your life.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 12

1. Review

Review Q&A and memory verses for lessons 10-11. Give several children a chance to recite these lessons and then have the whole group recite together. Do not spend too much time doing this review.

2. Explain the verse

Matthew 17:5 ...*“This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”*

- Who is speaking these words? (God the Father is speaking these words to Peter, James and John.)
- About whom is the heavenly Father speaking? (He is speaking about Jesus Christ)
- What three things does the Father want us to know about His Son? (He greatly loves Him, He is well pleased with Him, He is one who should be listened to above all.)

3. Memorize the verse

Puzzle - Write the verse on an 8-1/2 X 11-1/2 piece of paper. Cut the paper into pieces forming a puzzle. Mix the pieces up and then have children put them in order. Then recite the verse together many times. Each time you recite the verse take away one piece of the puzzle. When all pieces have been taken children should have memorized the verse.

Lesson Time Review Questions

1. What is a prophet? (Someone chosen by God who is to share God’s important message with others.)
2. Who is God’s special prophet? (Jesus Christ)
3. How did God show that Jesus was the most special prophet? (He came in a cloud and instructed Peter and others to listen to His beloved Son.)
4. How should we respond to Jesus, our prophet? (We should listen to Him and seek to be obedient to His word. We should also try to be a prophet by sharing God’s message with others.)