

Get Ready!



Text



Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-24; Luke 15:11-32



Key Quest Verse

“He loved us and sent His son” (1 John 4:10b).



Bible Background

Sin separates man from God. God in His holiness cannot approve sin, so it became a barrier between the fellowship of man and God. In consequence of their sins, Adam and Eve were separated from the Garden of Eden and God’s fellowship. Sin has two results – suffering and death. The final result of sin is death (Romans 6:23). Adam was warned, “For when you eat of it, you will surely die” (Genesis 2:17). Jesus dies as the sinner’s substitute. He took the sinner’s place and for the penalty of sin in His sufferings and death. He dies on the cross so that believers would not die in the second death. Christ’s death removed the barrier created by man’s sin in relation to God’s spotless character.

Get Ready!



Lesson Quest



What I want my students to:

Know: Everyone has sinned and needs a Savior.

Feel: God's love for having His son die for our sins.

Do: Make the right decision to love, trust, and serve God.

God made a perfect place for man to live and serve Him. God created people with the ability to make their own choices in life, but man failed. Fear, sin and doubt then entered the world. God can help us deal with everyday fears and sin. God sent Jesus to be our Savior and He wants us to love and serve Him.



Leader's Devotion

We often think of adults who have needs that must be met by God. What are the needs of small children, and how can they have a personal experience with God? Children need to meet God in the same way adults need to find and meet God. They should learn to listen and obey His word and learn the joy of responding to Him. Our goal should be to bring students into finding God and building a relationship.

Get Set!



Option A



Materials: Grocery sack, candy bars, novelty toys, donuts, chips, several wads of trash, die (If you have 6 children only a die is needed. For more than 6, use 2 dice for their numbers.)

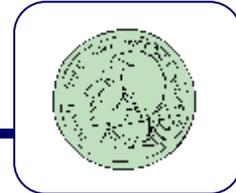
Procedure: (Before class place a selection of “goodies” in the center of the table and cover it with a grocery sack. Have enough “goodies” so that each child can choose 2 and have extras.)

Have children stand at the wall and number off 1, 2, 3 . . . and say, “We always have decisions to make in our lives. Some decisions are easy and some are hard! Today we’re going to make some decisions. I have dice and when I roll your number you get to make the decision of what you’d like under this sack.” (Remove the sack and roll the dice until each child has been able to make 2 selections.) “Was it hard to decide what to take? In life when we make some decisions we have to suffer the consequences. For instance, what happens when you hit your brother or sister? It was your decision to do that and you have to suffer the consequences. It’s time for today’s story and listen carefully so you can tell me what decision was made and what the consequences were.”

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY



Option B



Materials: A quarter with the word “right” taped on the head side and the word “wrong” taped on the tail side

Preparation: Write several scenarios on slips of papers for children to make decisions about what to do in these situations:

- Your sister is going to tell on you for doing something wrong. You think that if you hit her she won’t tell.
- You were told to clean your room before you went outside to play. A friend came over and you decided it would be better to play with your friend while he was there.
- You want a chocolate chip cookie but were told no. If your dad were watching would you get one?

Have your students flip the coin to decide what to do with each situation. “If it is the right thing to do why would someone choose to do the wrong thing? Would you do the same thing if your father were watching? Why or why not? Suggest the right thing to do in each scenario. God is always watching us and has given each of us the ability to make choices. We don’t toss a coin to decide what is right or what is wrong. Today we’ll see why we make wrong choices and why we make right choices.”

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY



Continued from page 3.

Get Set!



Option C



Materials: Students baby pictures

Procedure: Announce that you will be holding a “who’s who” contest and you need each student to bring in a baby picture. It may be good to call each student on Saturday and remind them you need a baby picture of them for the lesson on Sunday. Display the pictures, including a baby picture of you. Let the children guess who’s who. It’s interesting to see how much we change in just a little while. “God is looking at us all the time. What changes do you think He sees? I’ve got a picture of someone here you all know; it’s me. How did you get to know me? That’s right, you must spend time with someone to get to know him or her. God wants us to spend time with Him to get to know Him. In today’s story we’ll learn how we can find God.”

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

Get Set!



Bible Story



Materials for Betadine object lesson: Clear glass 1/4 full of water, eyedropper, Betadine (get at any pharmacy area), peroxide, stirrer

Procedure: “Who likes to go shopping and look at toys? While you were in the store, have you ever been lost? How did you feel? In today’s story we’ll learn of a man and a woman who were lost. God worked to make a beautiful garden for Adam and Eve. He could walk and talk with them! God made wonderful trees with delicious fruit for them to eat. But God said, ‘You are free to eat from any tree in the garden: but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.’ What would you think if God said don’t touch and don’t eat that?’ What do you think when your mom or dad say, ‘Don’t eat cookies before your dinner?’

One day Eve had a decision to make. She looked at the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The serpent told Eve, that if she ate the fruit from this tree she would be as smart as God would. What do you think Eve did? She made the wrong decision! She ate the fruit and then she fed Adam the fruit, too. I think Adam and Eve should have known that God was watching. (Betadine object lesson.) When God first made man, he was pure and clean just like this glass of clear water. Then one day, he made the wrong choice and he sinned. Who can tell me what sin is? Right, doing something that is wrong. Can you name some sins? (Example: not telling the truth, being mean to someone; let children take turns listing sins as each sin is listed put one drop of Betadine into the water.) Look how awful this clean, pure water looks now. That’s the way we must look to God when we sin. Do you know how we can clean this all up? Ask to be forgiven is right. If we ask to be forgiven and accept Jesus into our lives, He will erase all our sins. (Pour peroxide into the Betadine water & stir.) It is not magic to clear this up just like it is not magic for God to forgive us. He forgives us because He loves us. Whenever you do something that is not right, think of what we must look like to God when we sin. Ask to be forgiven.

Sin is doing something wrong and God cannot tolerate or stand sin. What was his promise if Adam and Eve ate of this tree? Things looked pretty dark and gloomy! The worst thing that could happen did happen. Man was lost and could no longer walk and talk with God directly. They were kicked out of God’s special garden. God was sad they made the wrong decision. God promised that sin would cause death. Before Adam and Eve sinned there was no death. Sin is destructive and caused people punishment. When we’re bad what must be done? What do you think punishment was for? It helps us stop doing things that are bad!”

Get Set!

**Bible Story**

**CONTINUED**

“On the very same day that this happened, God promised that someday things would be perfect again and He would walk and talk with us. In Genesis 3:15, God loved us so much that He promised us a Savior. He warned us that we would be tempted to make wrong decisions, but He would send Jesus to save us! Adam was the first man, but he was tempted and he sinned. God promised a Savior to help us. Who do you think that was? Yes, Jesus was God’s perfect son. God cannot stand sin! The only way to talk to God is through Jesus! That’s why at the end of our prayers we always say, ‘In Jesus name.’ God wants us to make good decisions to serve Him. God loves us and will forgive us! He does not want us to be lost. He wants everyone to be saved!

Jesus told a story of a boy who wasn’t happy with things at home. This boy had a good home, but wanted to get out on his own. His father didn’t want him to leave but to make his son happy the father gave him some money and let him move out. The son moved far away and spent his money and had fun with his friends. Finally, one day he was so hungry and his money was all gone, he got a job feeding pigs and ate with them. He started thinking about how wonderful things had been at home and decided to go back home and ask his father to forgive him for making the wrong decision. His father loved him and was so happy to have his son back home. He had a big party to celebrate. God is like that father. God wants us to be sorry for what we have done wrong and ask forgiveness and be close to Him. He loves us and has plans for us. When sin is gone and the earth is perfect again we can walk and talk with God in His kingdom.”



SCIENCE: This activity lets students discover the wonder of God's creation!

Go!



Separation



Materials: Clear juice glasses, vegetable oil, ice cubes

Procedure: Fill $\frac{1}{2}$ a glass with oil. Place an ice cube in the glass - the ice floats near the top. Observe your experiment for a while. Notice that as the ice melts, water droplets sink to the bottom. Why? As water freezes, it expands and takes up more room. This makes it less dense and it floats on the oil. Once it has melted, the water is heavier than the oil and it falls to the bottom.



Quest Connection

“To start, everything was perfect and man was floating along just like this ice cube enjoying life, but then he made a bad decision and sinned. He became separated from God and sunk in sin! See how the drops of water are sinking? That’s how we are without accepting without God in our lives. How can we float again and be close to God? Ask to be forgiven and accept Jesus into our lives. Do you like to be lost or separated from your mom and dad? Do you like to be separated or lost from God? God loves us and wants us to be close to Him.”



Close

“This week try to really think before you do something that you know is not right. Ask God to help you not to give in to temptation.”



ARTS AND CRAFTS: Cover the inside of the staple with tape to prevent students getting poked!

Go!



Decision Hats



Materials: 2 inch white piece of paper stapled together to fit around a child's head, a 4-inch yellow circle and a 4-inch black circle, black crayon and chalk

Procedure: Have children draw a smiley face on the yellow circle and a frown with chalk on the black circle and staple them to each child's hat.



Quest Connection

“What makes you sad or happy?” Discuss different actions that make God sad or happy and turn the hat the direction of the action. “Which way do you think God likes to see our hat? Remember how your actions affect others!” Let the children tell you things that make them sad or happy.



Close

“Let us ask God when we talk to Him to help us do the things that make Him happy. Would any of you like to lead us in prayer?”



PUPPETS: Any puppet with a cape made out of a bandana or small piece of cloth will work for the two characters in the show.

Go!



Jesus Saves



Materials: Puppets needed: 2 Super Hero's Flatman with a deep "serious" voice, Bobbin with a high-pitched voice like Elmo (be sure to check out Kidology.org "Puppetry Zone Puppets" on the web.)

Procedure: Puppet Show –

Puppets open singing: (The T.V. Batman theme but with Flatman instead . . . Nana nana nana nana nana nana nana, FLATMAN!)

Flatman: "Bobbin! Look what I found!"

Bobbin: "Jumpin' Jehosophat Flatman! What is it?"

Flatman: "I'm not sure, Bobbin . . . it appears to be a book with some kind of message in it."

Bobbin: "Leapin' Lazarus, Flatman! We've got to figure it out!"

Flatman: "O.K., Bobbin, let's figure out the hidden message. It says: 'The Gospel!'"

Bobbin: "Holy Bible, Flatman! Definitely a code! What do you think it means?!?"

Flatman: "Let's run it through the Define-a-Word-Capacitor and see what comes up!"

Bobbin: "Great thinking, Flatman! (Pause.) Is anything coming up?!"

Flatman: "Yes, Bobbin! It is coming up on the screen now!"

Bobbin: "Great Smelly Tennis Shoes! What does it say?!?!"

Flatman: "The phrase means 'Good News;' Something worth knowing!"

Bobbin: "Jogging Giraffes, Flatman! We must read it!"

Flatman: "Yes, Bobbin! Let's look inside!"

Bobbin: "Hopping Hippos! Great idea, Flatman!"

Flatman: "It says, 'All have sinned . . .'"

Bobbin: "Parachuting Parakeets! That means us, Flatman!"

Flatman: "Yes, it does. According to this, it says, 'The wages of sin is death!'"

Bobbin: "Leaping Lizards, Flatman! We're gonna die! Even though we're the Bumbling Duo! We're finished! Done for! History! Ka-Poot! What kinda' GOOD NEWS is that?"

Flatman: (interrupts) "Wait, Bobbin! There's more!"

Bobbin: "We're gonna change from Super Hero's to Super Zeros!"

Flatman: "Bobbin! Take a chill pill! There's more! That's not the end!"

Bobbin: "Great Goey Gumballs, Flatman! I'm not sure I want to hear more!"



Continued from page 9.

Go!

CONTINUED

Flatman: “I think so, Bobbin! But, it says we must repent and be baptized to accept Him as our Savior, or we’ll have to die for our sins ourselves!”

Bobbin: “Leaping toads, Flatman! Then there’s only one thing to do!”

Flatman: “What, Bobbin?”

Bobbin: “Flatman, we must accept Jesus as our savior and be baptized!”

Flatman: “Let’s pray, Bobbin.” (Bobbin says “me too!” after each line.) Dear God, I know I’m a sinner. I’m sorry I’ve sinned. Please forgive me. In Jesus’ Name, Amen!

Flatman: “Wow, Bobbin!”

Bobbin: “Flatman! That’s a change! Usually WE do the saving around here!”

Flatman: “But only Jesus can save people from their sins!”

Bobbin: “Holy cow, Flatman! That must make Jesus the Superest Super Hero of ALL!”

Flatman: “I hope all these kids will accept Jesus and be baptized when they’re older!”



Quest Connection

“Can any of you think of a superhero? (Superman, Spiderman, Wonder Woman.) We are going to watch a puppet show and afterwards I want you to tell me who the greatest superhero is!” (God.)



Close

God, helps us to live with You in charge. Help us to do the things that You would like for us to do. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

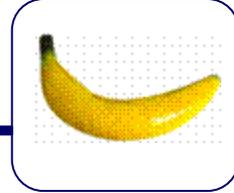


FOOD: Check for food allergies!

Go!



Going Bananas



Materials: Banana for each child, popsicle stick, melted candy chocolate, nuts (optional)

Procedure: Advanced preparation – place banana’s in the freezer for 1 hour before project begins so chocolate will harden faster. Melt 1 lb. milk chocolate in a double boiler (will stay soft for ½ hour).

1. Have children peel the banana and pierce lengthwise with a popsicle stick.
2. Roll in melted milk chocolate and possibly nuts.
3. Place on wax paper for 5 minutes for chocolate to harden or place in freezer.



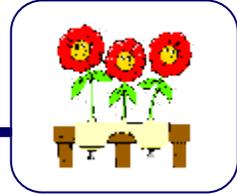
Quest Connection

“When God created man, he was pure and clean just like this banana. He made the wrong decision and sinned. Things looked dark and gloomy, just like this banana looks dark now, but God made a promise that He would send a Savior. When you bite into the banana, we see the inside again. God can see the inside of us and see if it we are pure and clean or sinful. What should we do to get rid of our sins?”



Close

Prayer: Thank You, Lord, for giving us a way to have our sins forgiven. Amen.

**ARTS AND CRAFTS****Go!****Watch Me Grow**

Materials: Tongue depressors, copy of the memory verse, copy of “Watch Me Grow With God’s Love,” flower stickers and glue

Procedure: Have children place a flower sticker at the tip of the tongue depressor on each side. Glue your memory verse just below on flower sticker. Glue “Watch Me Grow With God’s Love” just below the other flower sticker. Place in your flower garden or in a flowerpot with a flower.

**Quest Connection**

“God created a perfect garden and makes everything grow. He was happy walking and talking with Adam and Eve in the garden. Man sinned and was separated from God. God sent His son Jesus to be our Savior. To be saved, we must realize we are sinners, ask forgiveness from our sins, and have our sins washed away in baptism when we are old enough.”

**Close**

“Let’s say our memory verse together. ‘He loved us and sent His son’” (1 John 4:10b).



GAME: Food is involved, so be sure to check for food allergies!

Go!



My Lifesaver



Materials: Gift box, several different wrapping papers, lifesavers, tape player with music

Procedure: Advanced preparation – Before class fill a gift box with lifesavers. Gift-wrap the box with as many layers of different wrapping paper as you have students.

“I’ve got a beautiful gift here today that represents something very special to me.” (Play music and pass gift. When the music stops, the student holding the gift unwraps the first layer of paper, music starts again and play until all paper is removed.) Say: “I told you at the beginning of this game that the gift inside represented something very special to me. These are lifesavers and it reminds me that Jesus died to give me salvation and He is my Savior.” (Share lifesavers just as you share Jesus.)



Quest Connection

This activity is to show the students that sharing is exciting and important and that God wants us to be excited in sharing the message. We can be saved through Jesus.



Close

“Do you have a friend that always tries to talk you into doing something that you know will get you into trouble? Try praying for that friend. Ask God to help your friend understand what he/she is doing is wrong. Ask God to help you not to be tempted to join your friend in making wrong decisions.”

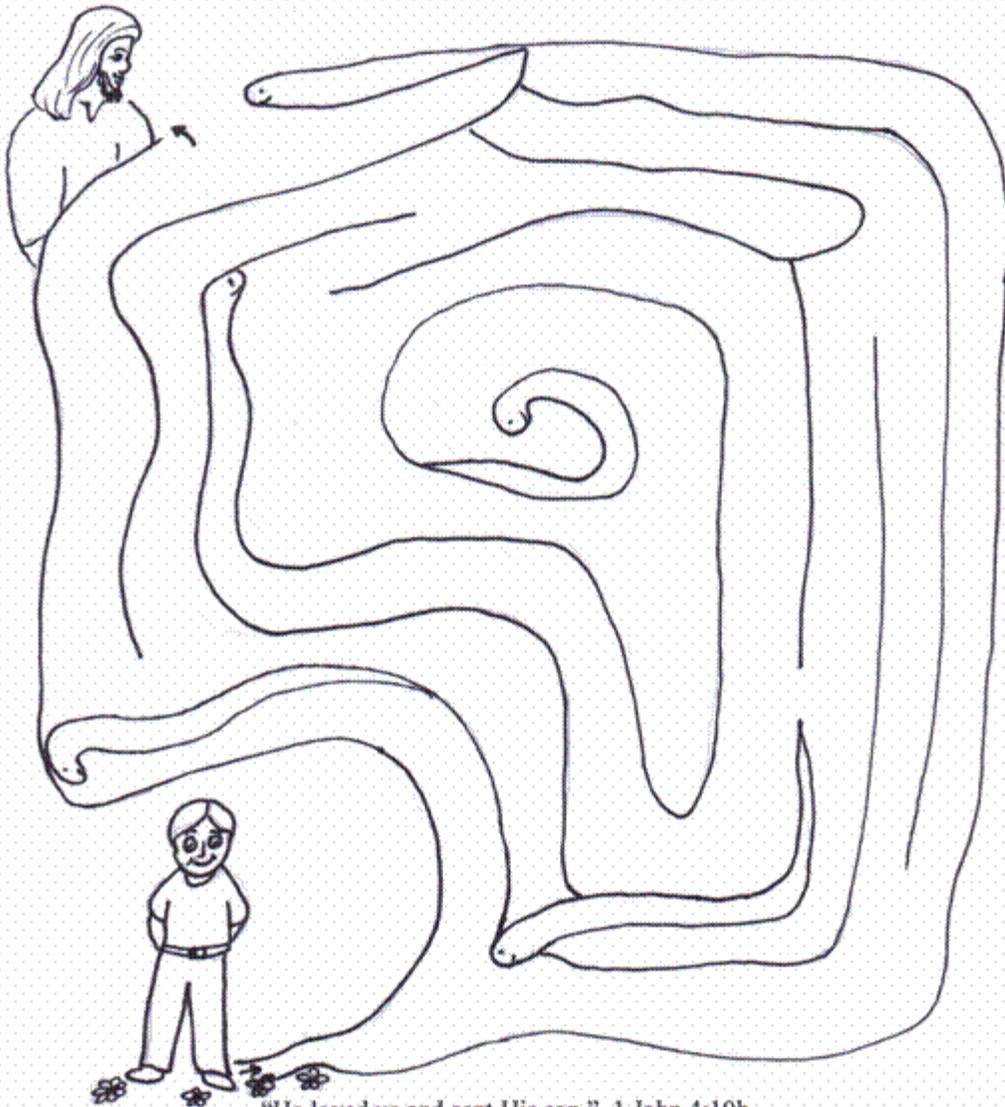
Journal Page

God made a beautiful garden for man to live in. Adam and Eve made the wrong choice and disobeyed God. Everyone has sinned and needs a Savior. We should feel God's love for us since He sent His own son, Jesus to die for our sins. We should make the right decisions to love, trust, and serve God. Draw a beautiful garden like the one God made. God wants things to be the way they were before sin! He will be happy, walking and talking here on earth again when all the sin is gone and His kingdom is here. The Bible tells us that the streets will be paved in gold in the kingdom. Can you draw a street of gold leading through your garden?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Serpent Maze

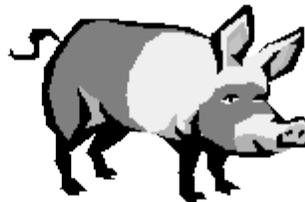
God made a beautiful garden for people to live and serve Him. God created people with the ability to make their own choices in life, but man failed. God cannot be around any sin! He had a plan to help us! God sent Jesus to be our Savior. To talk to God we must go through Jesus. God wants us to be good and love and serve Him. Help this boy find his way to Jesus. He may be tempted to try the easy way but watch out for the serpent!



Party Time

God made a beautiful garden for people to live and serve Him. God created people with the ability to make their own choices in life, but man failed. God cannot be around any sin! He had a plan to help us! God sent Jesus to be our Savior. To talk to God we must go through Jesus. God wants us to be good and love and serve Him. Jesus told the story of a boy who lived in a wonderful house. He was unhappy and wanted money to leave home so he could party with his friends. He moved far away and spent all his money on junk. He got a job feeding pigs and thought their food looked pretty good. He started thinking of how good his father had made things for him at home. He was sorry for making the wrong decision and asked his father to forgive him. His father was so happy to have him home that he threw a big party for him. God is like that father!

Circle the items you might find at a party.



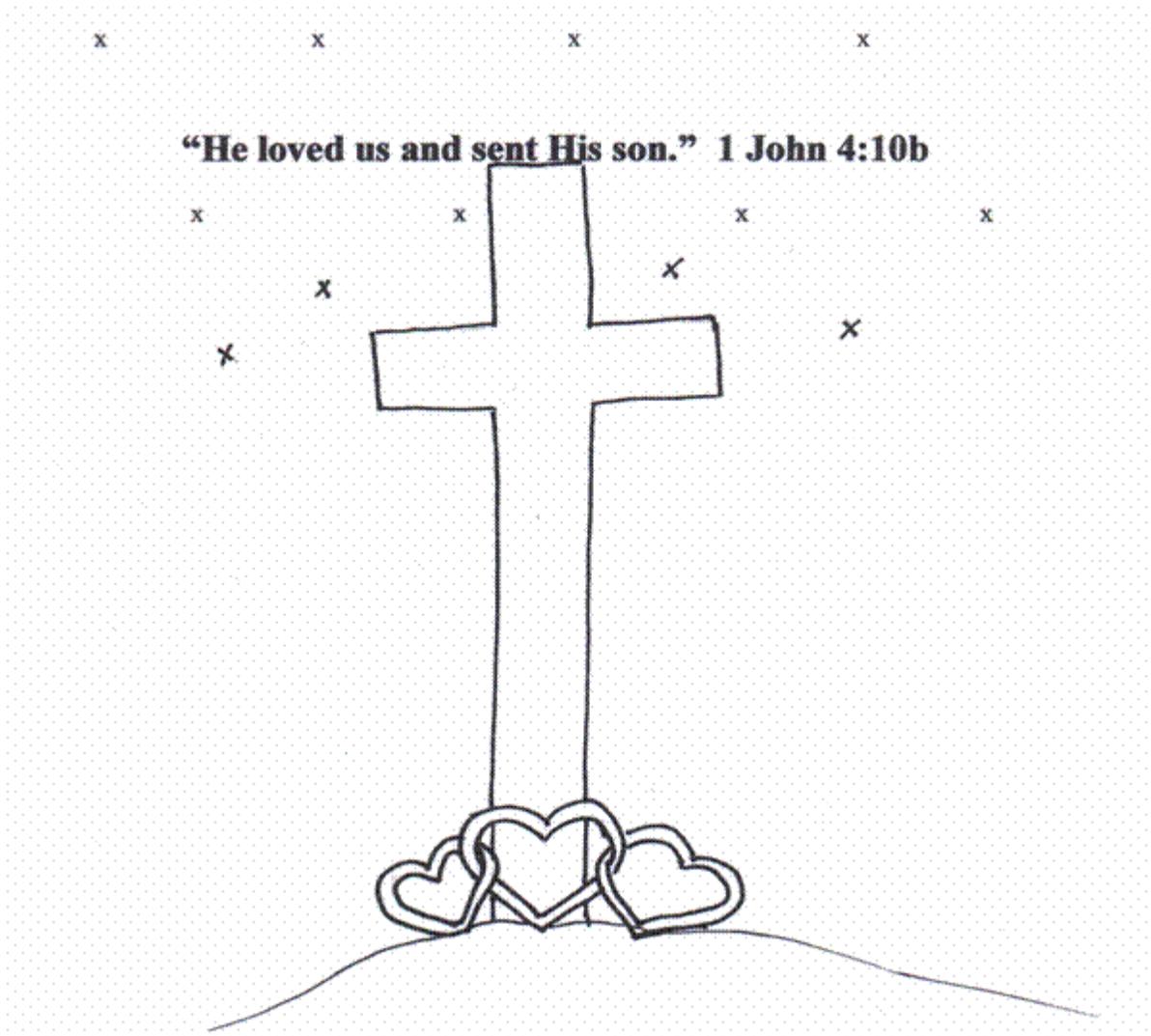
Perfect Picture

Materials: Dark blue construction paper, chalk, interlocking heart cut-outs, cross

Copy of Memory Verse: "He loved us and sent His son" (1 John 4:10b).

Quest Connection: "Can you remember the perfect gift God gave us? We're going to make a perfect picture of His gift with these items."

Using chalk, make small x's all over the blue construction paper (it represents Jesus as the light of the World.) Next, cut out a cross from brown paper and glue it in the center. Place the interlocking heart cut-outs over the cross to show God's love for us. Glue memory verse at the top of your picture.



Church Art

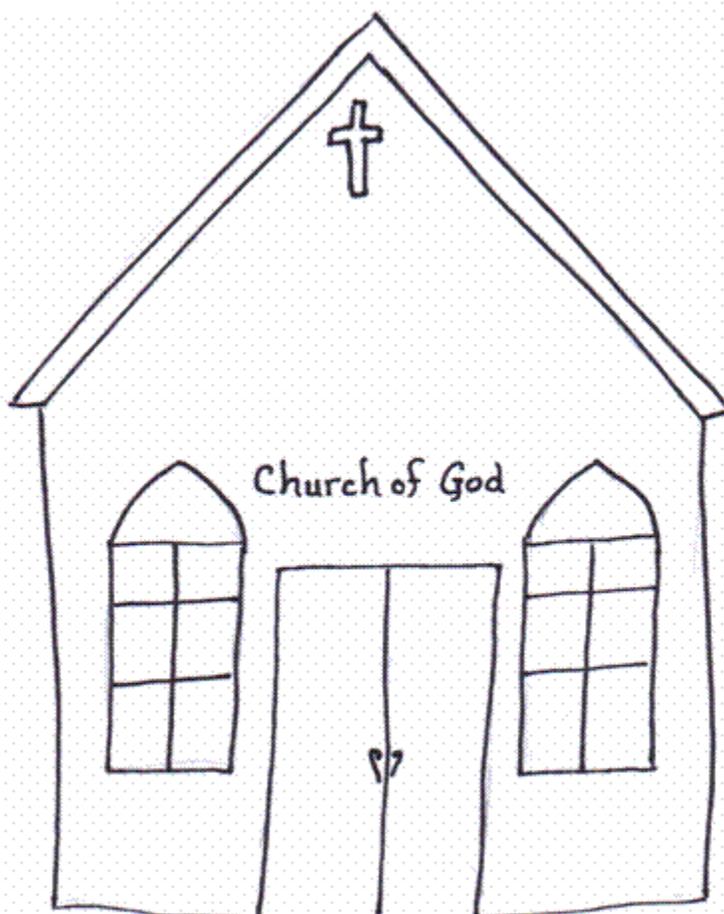
God created people with the ability to make their own choices in life; He had a plan to help us! God sent Jesus to be our Savior. To know more about God's plan for our lives we need to go to church. It is the right thing to do!

Option 1: Sewing card church

Use the pattern below to create a church that could be used as a sewing card. Copy the pattern onto poster board (one for each child) and use a hole punch to make holes around the edge every 1/2 inch. Cut yarn about 24 inches long and cover one end with scotch tape to form a needle. Attach the opposite end of the yarn to the sewing church card.

Option 2: Stained glass window church

Use the pattern below to create a church with stained glass windows. Colors crushed egg shells or rice with various colors of paint. Let the children cover the window areas with glue and attach the eggshells or rice. We have a beautiful place to come and worship God and learn more of his plan for our lives. We should find our way to God by attending church!



Home Again

God created people with the ability to make their own choices in life, but man failed. He has a plan to help us! God sent Jesus to be our Savior. Jesus told the story of a boy who could party with his friends. He moved far away and spent all his money on junk. He got a job feeding pigs and thought their food looked pretty good. He started thinking of how good his father had made things for him at home. He was sorry for making the wrong decision and asked his father to forgive him. His father forgave him and was so happy to have him home that he threw a big party for him. God is like that father! If we are sorry for the sins and ask forgiveness, He forgives us and loves us. God has a big celebration planned for us if we accept Jesus as our Savior. Help the unhappy boy find his way home. Connect the dots to make his home.

