

We Are...Light

- All Pre-Class
- Arrange tables and chairs.
 - Pray for tonight's class.
 - Have music playing.
 - Take attendance.

7:00-7:20

REVIEW

Choose an activity or activities from the following ideas:

- Review previous lessons.
 - Ask questions regarding the last few lessons using the "We Are... Review Questions" and "Jesus is...A through Z Review Questions" (in KPH binder). Reward correct answers with Starbursts, etc.
 - Play "baseball" with the review questions. Have the entire class play as one team, trying to beat a score of 20 runs (their record), or divide them into two teams and see which team can score the most runs. An incorrect answer equals an out. After three outs, it's the other team's turn to "bat" (or if playing with the entire class as one team, clear the bases of "runners" after three outs). Make sure each team gets an equal number of "at bats." Have another teacher keep track of outs and points on the marker board.
 - Play musical chairs. When the music stops, ask the player without a chair a review question. If the student answers correctly, he or she gets to stay in the game.
 - Divide the group into pairs. Give each pair one of the "mini posters" with adjectives and titles of Jesus (i.e., the "A" sheet or the "B" sheet, etc.; in KPH binder). Have each team work together to memorize every adjective or title on their sheet. Then have them come up front and recite them to the class.
 - Have a student come to the front of the class and pick a letter (A-Z) out of a bag and then try to remember all the adjectives/titles that go with that letter.
 - Play A-M or N-Z "BINGO" with adjectives/titles.
- Review other previously memorized items. Use cardboard chart and cards with books of the Bible, as well as other props.
 - "One God," "Sin and Repentance," etc., verses that students have been working on.
 - Sing verses set to song
 - Books of the Old and New Testaments
 - Divisions of Old and New Testaments

All 7:20-7:40

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

Divide the class into four groups: two each for 5- to 7-year-olds and 8- to 10-year-olds, one teacher with each group. (To cut down on noise and confusion, two groups may leave the room to practice verses in the hallway, stairwell, or another classroom.)

Students will work on memorizing doctrinal verses. Each student will have his/her own list or booklet to work from, containing a chart for teachers to initial as students quote the verses one at a time, two at a time, etc. (Teachers: Please read instructions on the bottom Bible memory work charts or in the front of the booklets.)

Coloring pages with the 10 Commandments or other Bible verses are available (in the KPH binder) to help occupy visitors or younger/distracted students while their classmates are working on verses.

- Remind students that there will be prizes for those who pass with a score of 80 percent or better.
- Remind students that during Bible Memory Work time, everyone must be working, not distracting others. They should help each other learn the verses. It's fun working together!

7:40-7:45

RULES & PRAYER

- Review "Power Hour Promises" with the students, reminding them of proper behavior during class.
- Pray together, thanking God for your time together and praying that each person will understand and obey God's Word and grow into a strong Christian.

7:45-8:05

BIBLE LESSON

Teacher Prep:

Read John 8:12 and Matthew 5:14-16. Pray for anointing.

Items Needed:

Different kinds of lights: nightlight, flashlight, lamp, candle, glow stick, etc.; basket or other container; "We Are..." display board; printed visual for "Light."

Introduction

During the first part of the year we learned about Jesus' character (who He is) and power (what He does) by exploring His titles and adjectives from A to Z. Refer to the "Jesus is...A through Z" board.

Now we are learning about some of the things that the Bible says we Christians are. Show the "We Are..." display board.

Show the different types of light.

- What are these used for? (*discuss uses for each type of light*)
- Can you think of some other types of lights? (*spotlight, light house, headlights, etc.*)

Lights help us see better so we can find our way. Lights help keep us safe. Even the smallest light can make us feel less afraid.

- What is the biggest light in our world? (*the sun*)
- What is the biggest light in our night sky? (*the moon*)
- Can the moon shine without the sun? (*no; the moon is not a light source on its own; it reflects the light of the sun*)

Lesson

A few weeks ago when we were exploring Jesus' titles and adjectives that begin with the letter "L," we talked Jesus being the Light of the World.

- How is Jesus the Light of the World? (*show props as possible: His "spotlight" shows us the sin in our lives; His "lamp" drives away the darkness [sin, sadness] from our hearts; His "headlights" show us the pathway to Heaven; His "lighthouse" keeps us away from rocky trouble; His "flashlight" helps us not to stumble even when there's darkness all around; His "nightlight" helps us be unafraid; etc.*)

We know Jesus is the Light of the World, but listen to what He said in Matthew 5:14.

Read Matthew 5:14 from your Bible.

Jesus said WE are also the light of the world. He is like the sun, and we are like the moon reflecting His light.

Show printed visual for "Light."

- Jesus said, "A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid."
What does that mean? *(a city on a high place can be seen from many miles away, especially at night when many lights are shining; Christians are individual lights, shining all together, making a bright light in a dark world)*

Have a student attach the visual for "Light" to the "We Are..." display board.

Now listen to the next verse, Matthew 5:15.

Read Matthew 5:15 from your Bible.

If it was dark in here and I wanted to walk from the door to the front of the room without tripping on something, I could light this candle, or turn on this flashlight. Show candle and flashlight. Even this small amount of light would help me see to cross the room. Demonstrate walking across the room with the flashlight.

Let's say you were trying to cross the room at the same time as me, but I didn't want to share my light. I could put this basket over it. Demonstrate walking with someone with the flashlight covered.

- Is this a smart thing to do? *(no; if I try to keep the light to myself, I can no longer see well either)*

Jesus said we should share His light, not hide it. He said we should put it on a candlestick (raise it up high) so everyone in the room can see.

Life Application

So, how do we let our light shine? Jesus gave the answer in Matthew 5:16.

Read Matthew 5:16 from your Bible.

When we do good things, we bring glory to Jesus. The good things we do should point to Him.

- **What are some good things you can do that will help other people know Jesus?** (*Speak kindly, help with jobs that need to be done, listen when your friend has a problem, be respectful of others, give money to help others, pray with someone, invite someone to church, teach someone a Bible study, etc., etc.*)

Let's pray right now that we will be able to do many good things so that our light will shine brightly for Jesus. Let's ask Him to help us. Remember, we are like the moon, and we cannot shine without Jesus.

Lead the kids in prayer—response to lesson.

8:05-8:15

BIBLE SKILLS

Use the "Books of the Bible" display board to point things out as you ask these questions:

- **How many books are in the Bible?** (66)
- **How many books are in the Old Testament?** (39 [3 letters in the word "Old" and 9 letters in the word "Testament"])
- **How many books are in the New Testament?** (27 [3 letters in the word "New" x 9 letters in the word "Testament" = 27])
- **What are the first four books of the New Testament called?** (*Gospels*)
- **What does "Gospel" mean?** (*good news [about Jesus ☺]*)

Hand out Bibles. Remind students to handle Bibles carefully and to help younger students find verses.

Open your Bible to the fourth Gospel.

- **What is the name of this Gospel?** (*John*)

Find John 3:19. (*Have a student read this verse out loud.*)

This verse has a big word in it: **condemnation**.

- **What does "condemnation" mean?** (*judgment; it comes from the word "condemn," which means "to say someone is guilty"*)
- **According to this verse, why did men love darkness rather than light?** (*because their deeds were evil [the things they did were bad]*)

Not everyone loves light. Guilty people don't love light. Thieves, murderers, lawbreakers of all sorts don't love light.

But there's some really good news in the New Testament book of history!

- What is the New Testament book of history? (*Acts*)

Find Acts 26:18 in your Bible. (*Have a student read this verse out loud.*)

People who are in the darkness and doing bad things can turn from darkness to light.

- Under whose power are people who do bad things? (*Satan's*)
- Under whose power are people who do good things? (*God's*)

When we do bad things, we don't have to stay in darkness. If we ask, Jesus will forgive our sins. Then we can walk in the light and BE the light.

Choose a couple of students to carefully collect the Bibles.

8:15-8:30

ACTIVITY/SNACK

Supplies: Bracelet glow sticks (for drinks plus extras to hand out)
Sprite (or other clear drink)
Smaller clear plastic cups to fit into...
Larger colored plastic cups
Snack of your choice

Bend glow sticks and place them into the bottom of colored cups. Push clear cups down inside of colored cups. Fill clear cups with Sprite. Serve the kids their glowing drinks and a snack of your choice.

While the kids are eating, hand out other glow sticks.

Remind kids: **We are the light of the world. Individually, we may not think our light is very big, but together we are brilliant!**

After the kids are done eating, sing light songs such as: "This Little Light of Mine," "If We Walk in the Light," and "Let Your Light Shine."