

NOTES FOR TEACHERS AND LEADERS

Creating curriculum for people of all abilities can be very challenging. Here are a few thoughts and additional adaptations that may help you customize this program for your students.

Note: Additional adaptations are included on the Leader Lesson page of each lesson. Each lesson is laid out to leave room for three-hole punch if you'd like to create class books of the materials.

The materials are purposefully made black and white to support all printers and to encourage the students to use writing utensils and colorful drawings to create within the lesson, making it their own and encouraging creativity. The original lesson is written near a grade 3-4 reading level and each lesson is written to focus on one main concept. Readers, or those who like to follow along, will enjoy the text/journaling layout.

LESSON PAGES & LAYOUT

- Units 1-2 include student lessons; all Units include activity sheets and visuals
- The text discussed in class is included on the student page for visual learners. (Units 1-2)
- The text discussed in class is included so follow up with a family member or mentor can occur.
This is greatly encouraged.
- The journaling side of the lesson is included for kinesthetic and visual learners. (Units 1-2)
- The journaling side can be used for notes or coloring in class, or saved for review at home. (Units 1-2)

Adaptation thoughts about the lesson page

- Even though someone cannot read well, they may still want the lesson in front of them. Don't make assumptions. Ask the student what they prefer.
- If someone in the class is distracted by the text, use a piece of paper to cover up the left side of the page and focus on the right. (Units 1-2)
- Or, cut the lesson so the students only have the journaling side. At the end of the lesson, tape or glue the journaling side they used to a full lesson page so each student has the entire page to take home. (Units 1-2)
- If someone in the class has trouble holding a pen or drawing utensils but wants to do the journaling side or activity sheet, consider using a bingo daubers for color, small watercolor paint sets or stickers.

(Continue on other side for Lesson Content Notes)

DURING THE LESSON

- **Each student should have their own Bible.** The Nlrv is encouraged for readers or those who like to follow along. The lessons are written near a grade 3-4 reading level. If students need a picture Bible, consider the age of your student. There are several picture Bibles that use adult-like illustrations. Feel free to email Faith.Integration@AbleLight.org for suggestions. The best practice is to decide on a Bible with your student.
- **Before you begin each Unit, consider having a family member or mentor who is willing to reinforce each lesson.** Mentors can use the lesson page as a guideline for discussion. If the follow up discussions cannot happen face to face (i.e. phone, facetime, skype, etc.), email the lesson to the mentor so they know the content that was covered. **This is highly recommended.**
- **Visuals are key; adding visuals helps the students have better understanding.** For example, bring in an actual cross or take a tour to the sanctuary to see the cross.
- **Use music! Consider using a theme song for each Unit.** Open or close each class with the song. Songs that teach a concept or a Bible verse are encouraged.
- **Follow a schedule and post it where your students can see it.** If you'd like to create a visual schedule, you have our permission to cut, paste, copy and enlarge any of the visuals for classroom use.
- **Keep an eye on the time.** If your class is a group of quick learners, you may be able to cover two lessons in one class period. Just make sure each student can follow this speed. If your students are struggling with a concept, consider slowing down the lesson and breaking it into two class periods.
- **Use AbleLight's *Wonderfully Curriculum*.** It is helpful in many situations. It is helpful in many situations. Visit ablelight.org/faith-resources to download.

Looking for More Faith Resources?

We're committed to continually enhancing and updating the materials to help individuals grow in their faith.

For additional resources designed to support people with developmental disabilities, visit our Faith Resources page on [**AbleLight.org**](http://AbleLight.org).

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