

UNIT ONE**Lesson Six: The Gospel****OBJECTIVES:**

- Convey the truth that the Bible is God's Word.
- Understand how the Bible came to be.
- Know why the Bible is important in our lives.
- The Bible points us to Jesus, from Genesis through Revelation.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Know that the Gospel comes from God.
- Know that the Gospel is a free gift from God.
- Know that the Gospel message is Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins.
- Know that because of Jesus, we are forgiven.
- Know that Gospel means good news.

Materials Needed:

- A Bible for every student
- Colored pencils or Bible highlighters
- Picture cards: newspaper, seatbelt, ticket, Jesus on cross, heart, heaven, tomb, empty tomb, feet/follow
- Follow-up worksheet: The Gifts

Notes:

- > There are stickers for this lesson: Psalm 103:12, Micah 7:19, 1 John 2:25, John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8.
- > There are memory-helpers listed at the end of this lesson that can be inserted throughout the lesson.
- > The closing prayer includes prayer requests from the group.

Possible Adaptations:

- Preprint stickers: Psalm 103:12, Micah 7:19, 1 John 2:25, John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8. (Full story stickers are not included.)
- Preset location of verses in students' Bibles using sticky notes.

LESSON:

Have a Bible available for each student in your class. Encourage them to see it, feel it, write or draw in it, and make it their own during the lesson. The suggested version is NIV.

OPENING PRAYER:

Dear Heavenly Father, help us learn about Your Holy Word, the Bible. Teach us that the Bible is Your true and only Word and there is nothing else that can take its place. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

NOTES FOR CLASS OR HOME

Name some presents or gifts you have been given:

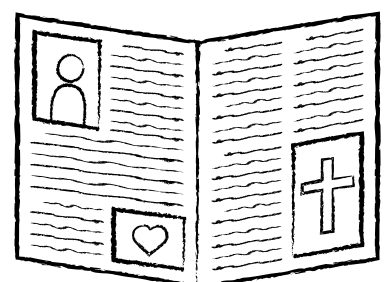
1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____



INTRODUCTION:

Today we will learn that God's Gospel message was written in the Bible to tell us how God saves us. The word Gospel means good news. God promised He would save us and He does. This is good news! God keeps His promises. This is also good news! God sent His Son Jesus to earth to die on the cross to save us from our sins. Jesus took the punishment we deserve so we can be forgiven. We hear the Gospel in the Bible and we know "God's Word is true!"

When we learned about God's Law, we talked about seatbelts and safety straps and how they keep us safe. We also talked about how no one is perfect and how no one except Jesus could keep God's Law.

Can you remind us how seatbelts and safety straps keep us safe?

Discuss.

What did we say might happen if we did not wear our seatbelt and a police officer saw that we were breaking the law?

Discuss.

Now picture this. Imagine a police officer pulls you over for not wearing a seatbelt but he does not give you a ticket. Instead, he reminds you how to stay safe and lets you go free. You don't get in trouble! You don't have to pay!

Even though you deserve a ticket for breaking the law, how does it feel to not get punished?

Discuss.

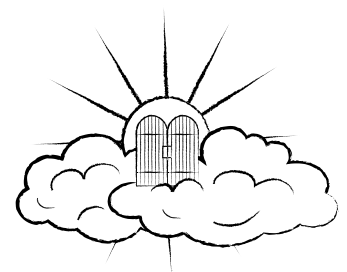
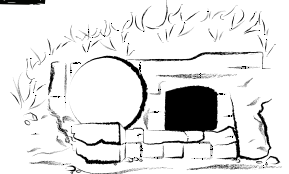
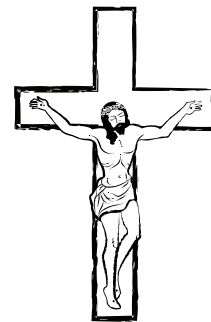
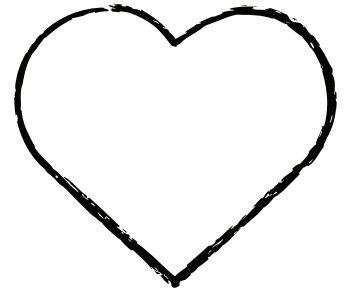
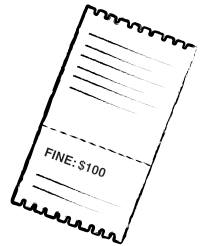
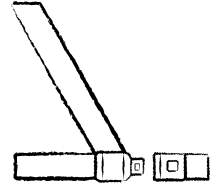
This is like God's Gospel message; it's God's good news. Even though we deserve punishment for the sins we do, God forgives us. God forgives us because Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. Jesus took the punishment for us because He loves us and wants us free to live in heaven with Him someday.

Even though you deserve a ticket for breaking the law, how does it feel to not get punished?

Discuss.

Read & Highlight God's promises about saving us and giving us forgiveness.

- **Psalm 103:12:** When Jesus died for us, He took all our sins away. They are gone and forgotten. *(Show the picture card of Jesus on the cross.)*
- **Micah 7:19:** God loves us; God forgives us. *(Show the picture card of the heart.)*
- **1 John 2:25:** God promises us a home in heaven someday. *(Show the picture card of heaven.)*
- **John 3:16:** Believing in Jesus gives us forgiveness and a home in heaven someday.

NOTES FOR CLASS OR HOME

Read about what happened to Jesus.

- **Mark 15:20, 25, 37-39:** Jesus was beaten, hung on a cross and died. *(Show picture card of Jesus on the cross.)*
- **Mark 15:46:** Jesus was buried in a tomb. *(Show picture card of the tomb.)*
- **Mark 16:1, 4-6:** Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus is alive! *(Show picture card of the empty tomb.)*

Read about God's Gospel message.

- **Mark 16:15-16:** Jesus says to tell others about Him. Jesus says if we believe in Him, we will not be punished for our sins because He saves us. *(Show picture cards: feet, Jesus on the cross, the empty tomb.)*
- **Read & Highlight about God's Gospel message being a free gift.** Ephesians 2:8: *(Show picture cards: heart, Jesus on the cross, empty tomb, heaven.)* The only way to be forgiven is to believe Jesus saves us. The only way to live in heaven someday is to believe in Jesus. Being good does not get us into heaven. Heaven is a free gift from God.

We know this because the Bible tells us this, and we know "God's Word is true!"

REVIEW

1. God's Gospel is a free gift.
2. God's Gospel message is that Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins.
3. God will not punish us for our sins; He will forgive us because of Jesus. *(Before praying, take prayer requests from the group.)*

CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You for the great gift of Your Bible. It helps us learn about You and how You want us to live our lives. Help us remember Your Gospel message. Thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross to save us from the punishment we deserve. Thank You for keeping Your promises to us. Today we'd like to pray for *[insert prayer requests here]*. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Tune of Thank You

Thank You, for giving me the Bible
Thank You, because I know it's true.
Thank You, for giving me the Bible
I know that it's true.

God's Law Chant

God's Law (clap, clap)
Was written (clap, clap)
So we know (clap, clap)
What to do (clap, clap)
God's Law (clap, clap)
Was written (clap, clap)
To point us (clap, clap)
To Jesus (clap, clap)

NOTES FOR CLASS OR HOME**PRAYER
REQUESTS**

UNIT ONE

ALTERNATE LESSON

Lesson Six: The Gospel

OBJECTIVES:

- Convey the truth that the Bible is God's Word.
- Understand that God's Word is true.

LESSON SUMMARY:

Know it is important to hear God's Words.

Materials Needed:

- Bible, hand mirror

If applicable: consider having the original student worksheet available for staff or volunteers who may be assisting the group. It is a good source for background knowledge, especially if questions arise at a later time.

OPENING PRAYER:

Dear Heavenly Father, help us learn about Your Holy Word, the Bible. Teach us that the Bible is Your true and only Word and there is nothing else that can take its place. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

Today we will learn that it is important to hear God's words. God's Word helps us, and we know that "God's Word is true!" I'm going to get out my hand mirror again today. This time I'm going to ask you to make faces. Before we begin, let's all make a happy face. Great! Now let's all make a sad face.

LESSON:

What is something that may make you happy?

[Insert name], if you had that happen, if you were happy, look in the mirror and show us the face you'd make.

Nice! Look everyone, this is [insert name]'s happy face.

What is something that may make you sad?

[Insert name], if you had that happen, if you were sad, look in the mirror and show us the face you'd make. Nice! Look everyone, this is [insert name]'s sad face.

When we feel certain ways, we should listen to God's Word, the Bible, and hear what God has to say. We do this because we know "God's Word is true!" Let's try looking in the Bible to hear what God wants us to know.

Everyone make an angry face. [Insert name], look in the mirror. How would you look if you were mad?

God says we should be gentle when we talk to others. I'll show you. *(Read Proverbs 15:1)*

Everyone make a lonely or worried face. [Insert name], look in the mirror. How would you look if you were lonely or worried?

God promises He is always with us. God says He never leaves us alone. *(Read Joshua 1:9)*

Now listen to God's words in John 6:47. God says we will live in heaven someday if we believe in Jesus.

How does that make you feel? Does this give you a happy face? Let's see happy faces!

It is important to hear God's words, and we know "God's Words are true!"

God promises He is always with us. God says He never leaves us alone. *(Read Joshua 1:9)*

CLOSING PRAYER: *(Before praying, take prayer requests from the group.)*

Dear God, thank You for the great gift of Your Bible. It helps us learn about You and how You want us to live our lives. We know the Bible is true; thank You! Today we'd like to pray for [insert prayer requests here]. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.