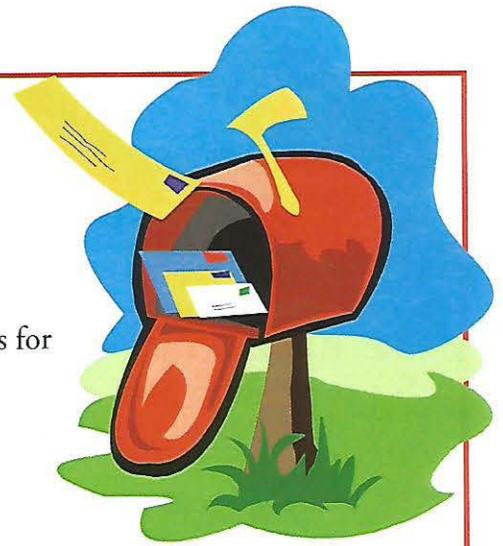


Keep the Faith!

Theme: Faithfulness — Learning the Scriptures in order to be soldiers for Christ

Sunday Morning Lesson



Pre-Class Activity: Have a worksheet featuring the Bible Knowledge Expectations learned to date for the students' grade level. Use this as a way to talk about how they know so much. They have been taught by parents and teachers, as Timothy was taught by his mother and grandmother.

Bible Facts: Special Delivery: Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Have the Memory Verse strips hidden in different places throughout the room. Have the students find the strips and place them on the floor in front of the pocket chart. Once all the strips are found, have the students place them in the pocket chart correctly. Read the Memory Verse aloud together.

Prayer

Lesson of the Day

Ideas for Teaching the Lesson

1. In the classroom Bibles, have the students find and mark 2 Timothy 1:5 and 3:14-15.
2. Prepare a scrapbook of Timothy's life. Use the graphics found on page 67 of this Guide, plus any others that you wish to include.
3. From the Letters from Heaven Package take pictures of grandmothers and mothers. Talk about how Timothy's grandmother and mother taught him about God and how we should listen to our grandmothers and mothers when they are teaching us to love and obey God.
4. Use the scrapbook as you tell the story of Timothy growing up and learning about God. In time, he became a Christian and a preacher. Timothy met the apostle Paul and began traveling with him to preach and teach the gospel.
5. Read together 2 Timothy 1:5 and 3:14-15.
6. Show how Paul wanted Timothy to be a good soldier of Jesus Christ and a faithful servant of Jesus. Talk to the students about how Timothy had to choose to be a soldier and servant. His grandmother and mother could teach him. The apostle Paul could encourage him. But Timothy had to decide. Make application that every person must decide whether or not to serve God.

7. Have flashcards with basic Bible knowledge questions printed on them. Work through the cards with the students and be impressed by how much they know. Talk to them about how this “happened.” It was not an accident. They have been taught the Bible by their parents and teachers. Isn’t it great to know the Word of God?!
8. Have cards and markers available for students to make Thank You notes for their parents or teachers who have taught them about God. If necessary, this activity may be completed during the Wednesday night class period.
9. Put the key verse scroll on the Letters from Heaven Wall.

Suggested Song(s) for this Lesson

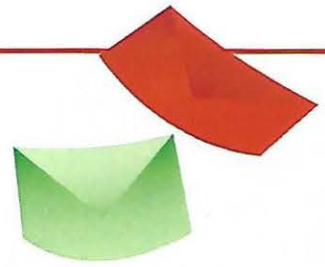
- The Lord’s Army
- Roll the Gospel Chariot
- Soldiers of Christ

Activity for Next Sunday’s Lesson

Give each student an “interview” sheet reproduced from page 70 of this Guide. Assign each student the name of an elder he or she is to interview. Tell them you will introduce them or go with them to the elder they are to interview if they feel too shy to go by themselves. Arrange this activity ahead of time with each of the elders and, if possible, with the parents so that each child will have one-on-one time with his or her interviewee. Explain that these interview sheets will be used in class next Sunday.

Things to Get or Do
for Sunday Morning

-
-
-
-
-



Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity: Have letters in the classroom mailbox as a word of commendation and encouragement about half way through the quarter of study. Have students practice saying the books of the Bible with one another as partners.

Bible Facts: Special Delivery: Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Cut the Memory Verse strips into smaller units, having only a word or two on each piece. Have the pieces on the floor in front of the pocket chart. Have the students arrange the pieces correctly in the pocket chart.

Prayer

Starter

Have you ever watched a boxing match on TV? There are two guys in the “ring” with boxing gloves and they trade punches until someone goes down and stays down. Imagine you are watching a much anticipated match between two great boxers. When the bell rings, one of the boxers just stands there with his hands at his sides. He doesn’t move around, he doesn’t protect his face from the opponent’s blows, and he throws no punches himself. He gets beaten in no time. What do you think the fans would be doing in the live audience and in the audience watching it on TV? What will the talk be about the next day? Paul said to fight the good fight of faith. Sometimes people stand in the ring of life with their hands to their sides and allow the devil to just take them down. But we are to stand in the ring, protect ourselves with God’s Word, and take a stand against evil. Don’t let the devil beat up on you! Encourage others to get in there and fight, too!

Briefly Review the Lesson from Sunday Morning

Ideas for Illustrating and Reinforcing the Lesson

1. *Objective: Illustrate and reinforce growing up to know God*

- ☀ Reproduce page 69 of this Guide to make scrapbook pages for each student. Cut the page into fourths and bind the book by stapling it on the left side. If possible, attach a photograph of the student to the front cover. Refer to the scrapbook of Timothy’s life used in the Sunday morning lesson. Have each student make a scrapbook of what his or her life may be like. Talk about good decisions children may make in the future, such as being baptized, being faithful to God, marrying someone who is a Christian, being an elder, deacon, or preacher or the wife of an elder, deacon, or preacher.

2. *Objective: Thanking those who taught the gospel*

- ☀ Children complete or write thank-you notes to mothers and/or grandmothers for teaching them about the Lord.

3. *Objective: To illustrate how small Christian actions add up in our lives to make us strong*

☀ Before teaching the lesson, give the students a strip of construction paper. Have them pass it around and make a small tear in it to show how easily it can be torn.

On another strip of construction paper, begin adding strips of wide masking tape, one on top of the other, periodically throughout the whole lesson period. By the end of the lesson you should have placed many strips of tape to make the paper so thick that it can't be torn. Tell the students that this is similar to our spiritual lives. We don't do one great thing that makes us a strong Christian, but it is a combination of many small things. Talk with the students about important "small things," such as going to Bible class, praying, obeying parents, respecting others, and making right decisions when we are tempted. Now, pass around the strip of paper with tape and see if anyone can tear it. If we build up our spiritual life, the devil will not be able to tear us either!

4. *Objective: Thanking those who preach and teach*

☀ Give each student a note card or piece of paper. Talk about how all preachers sometimes need encouragement. Ask the students to write or draw a note of encouragement to the local preacher. Go with the students to take the notes to the preacher. Even if he is teaching a class, it will be encouraging for him to receive the letters. Make prior arrangements with him.

5. *Objective: Illustrate properly handling the Word of God*

As a class, have students develop a set of instructions for building a cardboard house that includes doors and windows. The instructions should include a list of materials to use, when the building is to be completed, and the consequences of not completing it on time. Give the students a few minutes to develop the instructions. Discuss how the Holy Spirit gives us in Scripture instructions profitable for reproof, rebuke, correction, and instruction in righteousness. Talk about the meaning of these terms and how they apply to the students' lives.

Suggested Song(s) for this Lesson

- The Lord's Army
- Roll the Gospel Chariot
- Soldiers of Christ

Things to Get or Do for Wednesday Night

-
-
-
-
-