

EIGHT HOME CLASSES FOR CHILDREN'S FOLLOW-UP

LESSON 1

Purpose: To give a welcome to the family of God. To express how marvelous it is that they have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

Story: Big Jim

Jim is a bully. All the time in school, he causes problems. One day he was so bad that the teacher left school saying she would never teach there again. After a time, the people in charge of the school found another teacher. But, this teacher was different. The first day, he announced rules for the class with punishments. For example, one rule was, "don't talk without permission." If you talk without permission, you will receive the punishment of a paddling. Another rule was, "don't steal." If you steal, you will receive five licks with the paddle. In all, there were ten rules with the appropriate punishments.

One day, the teacher said that something bad had happened. All the students looked at Jim thinking that surely he was the problem like normally happened. But, the teacher said that another boy, a little child named Louis, broke the rules. Louis came in front of the class with the teacher because he had stolen a lunch from another person. Louis must receive the punishment of five spankings for stealing. Poor Louis, he was very small and shy. But, rules are rules, and someone has to pay the price of breaking the rules.

The teacher is ready to give the spanking to Louis when Jim runs to the front of the class saying, "I want to receive the spanking for Louis. I want to give pardon to Louis. Then, the teacher says that that is fine and Jim receives the five spankings for Louis. Louis had taken the lunch of another person and had eaten it. However, for the mercy of Jim, Louis is free of the punishment.

Boys and girls, Louis is like each one of us. The Bible says that all have sinned in one way or another. But, because of the great mercy of Jesus Christ, He received our punishment like Him received the punishment for Louis. We, too, received mercy from God.

Announcement: Today you prayed to receive this great pardon of God. And, there is a great celebration in heaven because if you believe in your heart that Jesus is Lord and Savior and confess with your mouth these things, your name is written in the book of God in heaven and no one can remove it. Now, next week (explain which day and time), we will have a class for you with stories, games and more.

Prayer: Pray with them giving thanks for salvation and pray that they continue living for Christ Jesus.

LESSON 2: The Love of God

Principle: You are special and God loves you.

1. **Welcome:** Shake hands or greet each child. Take care that each one will feel welcome in the class.
2. **Puppet song.**
3. **Two action songs.**
4. **Trick:** The three ropes. The theme of this trick is that all are equal with God and that God loves each one.
5. **Drama:** (two people)

Lucy (little girl): Crying a lot. (out loud)

Man or Woman: "What is wrong? What is the problem?"

Lucy: (still crying) "My little bird. My little bird is gone. I put him in This box and now he is gone!"

Man or Woman: "That's not important."

Lucy: (crying very loudly) "Yes, it is important. My little bird is gone. Where is he?"

Man or Woman: (looks up in the sky for the bird—then says)

“The Bible says that God knows where he is.”

(Read Matthew 10:29-31)

Lucy: “God knows where my little bird is? How great that is! God Loves me and God loves all of you, too! Wow!”

6. Verse: Psalms 139:14 (First half) “I will praise Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” Tell the children that God knows how many hairs are on their head. He knows their names and everything about them. They are special to Him and they are unique. (Help the children repeat the verse using hand motions.)
7. One worship song.
8. Pray for the children. Give thanks to God for His love.
9. Game with the Bible verse: While looking in a mirror, a child says the verse and then while still looking in the mirror, he throws a bean bag backwards over his shoulder in a box.
10. Dismiss them with prayer and hand shakes or other expressions of God’s love.

LESSON 3: Jesus Died For You

Principle: Explain how salvation is a gift from God; that it is free; and that it is because of the love of God and is personal for every one.

1. Welcome: Have a puppet give the welcome
2. Puppet song.
3. Drama: “The Gift”

(Before class, wrap a box like a gift with several layers of paper such as wrapping paper.)

Lucy (like a child) enters and sees a gift on the table. She picks it up and shakes it. Then, she runs and throws it to a child to begin unwrapping it. After a short time, take the gift and give it to another child to unwrap a little. Repeat this process several times until all the paper is off the package. This goes very quickly. At the end, Lucy opens the box and reads a paper you have put in there before class. It says, “The gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ, our Lord.”

4. Story: Explain the story of the crucifixion using flannelgraph or pictures or simple drawings. Explain the meaning of repentance which is to be sorry for sin and to turn and change away from that sin.
5. Prayer: Give an opportunity for the children to pray to receive Christ as their Savior. Also, help them to thank God for His love and salvation.
6. Verse: Romans 6:23. Give the children a paper with the verse written on it. The children repeat the verse while folding the paper like a gift. (If the children are small, they only learn half of the verse.)
7. Handwork: The children make a cross with sticks.
8. Prayer:
9. If you want, serve refreshments to the children.

LESSON 4: Baptism

Principle: Teach the children the importance of following God in their lives. First, after salvation is to be baptized in water.

1. Welcome: Greet each child with a smile.
2. Puppet Song.
3. Story: Philip and the Ethiopian Man. (Acts 8:26-39) Draw simple figures while you are telling the story to the children. (Draw on a chalkboard or whiteboard or sheet of large paper that all the children can see.)
4. Drama: Let the children act out the story of Philip the Ethiopian. (Bring a cloth or towel or sheet to use for the two characters’ clothes.)

5. Verse: Acts 2:38. (First part) (Before class, make 8 footprints of paper or cardboard.) The children take turns walking on the footprints while repeating the verse. They walk in one direction and then turn and walk backwards.
6. Songs: Pick two or three songs to sing with the children.)
7. Discussion: Talk to the children about baptism, what it is and why it is done. All the children who desire to be baptized and who receive permission from their parents, can be baptized by the Pastor. Give time for the Pastor to talk about this to the children.
9. Dismiss the children with prayer, asking God to help them follow God and His ways in their lives.

LESSON 5: The Bible and the Promises of God

Principle: To teach the children the importance of the Bible and the promises of God for their individual lives.

1. Songs: Two action songs that use a lot of energy.
2. Puppet Story: Two puppets talking about what the Bible is.
3. Verse: II Peter 1:4 (first part) One puppet teaches the other puppet the verse and the children repeat it with the second puppet.
4. Grandmother: (a woman enters dressed like a little old grandmother)
Dialogue: "How are you, boys and girls? I have something in my bag to show you these? Yes, keys. The keys are like the promises in the Bible. What do you need from God? Do you need health, salvation, joy, wisdom? God has all that we need. But how can we find the promises of God? By reading the Bible. If we read the Bible, we can find the promises of God. Then, boys and girls, everybody read your Bible and you will find the promises of God for you! Goodbye!"
5. Game: (Before class, write the words of the verse on cards, one word for each card. Do this two times. On the other side of the cards, write numbers.) Play the game of concentration where the children find matches, two cards that are the same. Each time they find a match, their team earns a point.
6. Songs: two slow, worship songs.
7. Prayer: Talk with the children about the love of God for each of them. Pray with them for their needs.
8. Dismiss them with a hand shake.

LESSON 6: Prayer

The Principle: Explain to the children that God is their Friend, and that they can talk with Him whenever they want.

1. Welcome: Greet the children saying, "Hello, Friend!"
2. Puppets: (Before class, make a telephone of two cans connected with a rope.) Two friends talk to each other by telephone but the connection is bad. They become frustrated. Finally, the teacher explains that there is no bad connection to God. You can always talk to God.
3. Story: (Before class, make simple drawings to illustrate the Lord's Prayer found in Matthew 6:9-13.) Tell the story of Jesus teaching the disciples to pray.
4. Verse: Help the children to say the Lord's Prayer using the drawings you made.
5. Prayer: Have signs around the room: family – school – your country – other parts of the world. If one is available, put a map of the world or pictures with the signs. Divide the children in groups and they walk to each sign as a group to pray for each topic.
6. Activity: Help the children write a need they have on a piece of paper. They put these papers in a box that has a sign saying "prayer." Everyone puts their hands on the box and prays for the needs that are listed inside.
7. If there is time, permit the children to play a game.

LESSON 7: God's Plan for You

Principle: Teach that God has a plan for each child's life.

1. Puppets: Song and Welcome
2. Activity: (Before class, make a "map" of the room or an area of the class.) Give a copy of the map to each child. The children read the map and go to four places on the map. At each place, they receive a small prize, like candy, a sticker or something small.
3. Story: I Samuel 1:20-28; 3:1-11. (Bring clothes like a shirt or robe, a scarf and a candle or flashlight along with a blanket to put on the floor like a bed.) Demonstrate these things when you are telling the story of Samuel.
4. Drama: Permit the children to act out the story of Samuel.
5. Verse: (Jeremiah 29:11) "For I know the thoughts I have toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."
Write the verse and cover or erase one or two words at a time. The children repeat the verse each time before you erase another word.
6. Game: The children throw a bean bag at a box after repeating the verse.
7. Dismiss the children with prayer for the direction of God in their lives.

LESSON 8: Tell Others

Principle:

Help the children share with others what God has done in their lives, especially salvation.

1. Welcome: Make a megaphone of paper or cardboard. Use it to greet the children with joy and enthusiasm such as, "Hello, here is George! Welcome!"
2. Puppets: Song
3. Verse: Puppets sing the verse in a sing-song voice. (Mark 16:15 "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Afterward, the children sing the verse with the children.)
4. Story: (Acts 10) (Before class, put different stuffed or toy animals inside a sheet tied with a rope and hung in the classroom.) In the story, lower the sheet with the rope illustrating the vision of Peter.
5. Game: A child throws a rock at a map on the floor. Talk to the children about testifying of Jesus to their neighbors and others around the world. Permit the children to take turns throwing their small rock on the map to see where it lands. (The map should be a map or drawing of the world.)
6. Prayer: Help the children to pray for their neighbors and others who don't know Jesus.
7. Dismiss them with the same megaphone.