

OVERVIEW OF LESSONS FOR TERM TWO

Overall Theme: Becoming a Friend of God

The lessons for this term are developed around **Strand 2: Love God** of the Topics for this Peace in a Community curriculum. We all like to have friends so the beginning lesson looks at how friendships are formed. It continues then to realize that God wants to become our friend. How does one become a friend of Someone they cannot see or feel? Different facets of that question is answered in each of the lessons. Each lesson is developed from a Bible story that provides a basis for the way we become friends of God.

In addition to the basic **Teacher and Student Activities**, you are encouraged to utilize the information found in the **Notes for Teachers** which are written to give you more background for the Bible story. It will give guidance for making the Bible story concise. There are other helps that you may want to incorporate to make the lesson more relevant to the students.

There are **Extension Activities** included. In all lessons, students will be encouraged to write their new memory verse in their *Memory Verse Exercise book*. Committing Bible verses to memory is so important especially at this age. God will bring back these verses at times in our lives when they especially fill our need. For students who may not have their own Bibles, these Memory Verse Exercise books may be especially valuable and appreciated through the years. In all lessons, students will also be encouraged to write in their **other exercise book** a brief reminder of the lesson for that day. It is intended to give these lessons a bird's eye view of what has been covered during this term. Again in years to come, this may serve as a helpful reminder.

In most of the lessons, there are optional activities which may be in the form of a game, an object lesson, a guided discussion, an exercise related to the lesson, a scripture search or other suggestions for expanding the teaching of this lesson. Be creative yourself and make the lesson personal and relevant to you and your students. Let the truths of these lessons change your relationship and that of your students into being a close friend with God.

Here is a brief outline of the ten lessons for this course.

BECOMING A FRIEND OF GOD

Lesson 2.11 Forming Friendships

"Friends always show their love." Proverbs 17:17

Basic Truth: Just as we form friendships with one another, God wants to be our friend

Scripture: II Kings 4:8-16a Elisha and the Shunamite lady

Key Point: Forming friendships includes noticing what another needs, having a common interest, wanting to be helpful and holding respect for the other.

Special Emphasis: Assign students to practice making a new friend by doing something nice for someone they don't know well.

Lesson 2.12 Friends of God Worship God

"The Lord is great and is to be highly praised." Psalm 145:3

Basic Truth: One important way to be a Friend of God is to worship Him

Scripture: I Samuel 16:10-13,18; Psalm 139:1-2,6,17-18 David the shepherd boy

Key Point: Worshiping God is important for getting to know God. Worship means that we acknowledge God, give Him praise, respect and honor.

Special Emphasis: Experience worship by praising God with singing and rhythm instruments

Lesson 2.13 Friends of God Worship God by Praying

"Worship the Lord with joy." Psalm 100:2

Basic Truth: Friends talk with one another. Friends of God pray.

Scripture: Daniel 6:1-28 Daniel and the Lion's Den Experience

Key Point: Talking with God every day is key to building strong friendship.

Special Emphasis: Experience worship by praising God with music and praying to God

Lesson 2.14 Friends of God Talk With God

"Lord, teach us to pray." Luke 11:1

Basic Truth: Praying is more than asking God for things.

Scripture: Genesis 2:8-3:24; Luke 11:1-2 Adam and Eve in the garden; disciples asking Jesus to teach them to pray

Key Point: Prayer includes praising God, confessing our sins, giving God thanks and making requests for our needs

Special Emphasis: Praying together using the acronym ACTS: adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication

Lesson 2.15 Friends of God Listen for God to Speak

"I am the good shepherd...I know my sheep and they know me." John 10:14

Basic Truth: There are two parts to any conversation: talking and listening. The same is true in talking with God. Listening to God is another way to be a friend of God

Scripture: I Samuel 3; Isaiah 59:2 Samuel as a boy in the temple

Key Point: Talking with God includes listening to what He wants to say to us.

Special Emphasis: Guidance on how we can hear God speak to us

Lesson 2.16 Friends of God Obey God

"We must obey God..." Acts 5:29

Basic Truth: Being a Friend of God means we obey God

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-8 Abram Obey God

Key Point: If God knows we are obedient to Him, He can trust us to do what He asks.

Special Emphasis: Games such as "May I" teach children to obey

Lesson 2.17 Friends of God Read the Bible

"All Scripture is inspired by God..." II Timothy 3:16

Basic Truth: The Bible is God's Word to us. Reading the Bible helps us know God better

Scripture: II Timothy 3:16 Who wrote the Word of God?

Key Point: The Bible was inspired by God. It is divided into the New and Old Testament. There are 66 books. Each book is divided into chapters and verses.

Special Emphasis: Students learn to use the Bible

Lesson 2.18 Friends of God Study the Bible

"Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105

Basic Truth: Though the Bible is good to read, the Bible teaches us how to live.

Scripture: Psalm 119:105 The Bible guides us

Key Point: Get a good understanding of how to use the Bible and learn that the Bible is very relevant for us today.

Special Emphasis: Experience letting the Bible teach you how to live

Lesson 2.19 God's Friends Follow His Instructions

"We will do everything that the Lord has said." Exodus 19:8

Basic Truth: To play games we have to follow the rules. God has given us ten rules to help us know how to live for Him

Scripture: Exodus 19:1-20:17; 24:12 Moses given Ten Commandments

Key Point: The Ten Commandments tell us even today how to relate to God and how to relate to one another.

Special Emphasis: Explain in simple and relevant terms what the Ten Commandments teach us

Lesson 2.20 Friends of God Forgive When They have been Wronged

"Forgive us the wrongs we have done, as we forgive the wrongs that others have done to us." Matthew 6:12

Basic Truth: Friends of God don't hold grudges; they forgive

Scripture: Genesis 37:12-36; 39-41; 42:36-46:34 Joseph forgives his brothers

Key Point: Jesus tells us to forgive those who wrong us. Forgiveness gives us peace in our hearts

Special Emphasis: Close this unit by thanking God that He wants us to be His friend and thank God for all the friends in your class