

I Spy Salvation's Story



Director Guide

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Welcome to I Spy Salvation's Story

Why is there building debris scattered across the ground? What does the red cord hanging from that window mean? Whom does this worn broom belong to? Get ready to investigate and find the answer to these questions and more. This summer your students will delve into thirteen biblical mysteries at *I Spy Salvation's Story*. Using clues from the Bible account, students solve the mystery and gain a better understanding of God's Word.

Exploring I Spy Salvation's Story

I Spy Salvation's Story offers two levels for your students. Level A is designed for students who are nonreaders—generally preschool through grade 1. Level B is designed for children who are independent readers. In most cases this means students grades 2–6.

Student Groups

I Spy Salvation's Story offers flexibility for assigning student groups. Depending on your situation, and the number of students involved, you may choose to use traditional grade levels, or mixed-age groups. Once students are assigned to groups, provide each student with their own Investigator Badge/ID card from Clip Art files. You may want to color code your badges to readily identify student groups or levels. To help nametags last longer, laminate or cover them with clear contact paper.

I Spy Salvation's Story Structure

Opening

Each session of *I Spy Salvation's Story* begins with Opening. During Opening students take part in an activity with other children in their level, the lesson theme is introduced, and students prepare for the rest of the investigation.

Optional Large-Group Opening

As an alternative to the level Openings found in the level A & level B Leader Guides, this Director CD provides resources for large-group openings. Resources include:

- reproducible outline for opening worship
- hymn/song suggestions
- hymn/song recordings
- opening devotions/objects lessons

Following the large-group opening, students move to their respective level groups and continue with the rest of the lesson.

God Speaks

In the God Speaks section of the lesson the Bible account is read and told, the Key Point of the lesson is brought out, the Law/Gospel points are highlighted, and the story details are reviewed. The student leaflet is used to aid in investigating the Bible lesson.

We Live

After investigating the Bible account students learn to apply the Key Point to their lives.

Closing

The lesson is summarized, clarified, and concluded in Christ. A closing ritual is observed and the session ends in prayer.

I Spy Salvation's Story at-a-Glance

Lesson Title	Story	Text
The Case of the Broken Debris	Tower of Babel	Genesis 9:18–19; 11:1–9
The Case of the Floating Basket	Birth of Moses	Exodus 1:8–2:10
The Case of the Scarlet Cord	Rahab Believes	Joshua 2
The Case of the Little Coat	Hannah's Prayer	1 Samuel 1:1–2:21
The Case of the Burning Coal	Isaiah Sees the Lord	Isaiah 6:1–13
The Case of the Missing Scroll	King Josiah	2 Kings 22:1–20
The Case of the Old Bed	Jesus Heals at Bethesda	John 5:1–15
The Case of the Oil and Bandages	Good Samaritan	Luke 10:25–37
The Case of the Worn Broom	Jesus with Mary and Martha	Luke 10:38–42
The Case of the Dried Palms	Triumphal Entry	Luke 19:28–40
The Case of the Sharp Sword	Jesus in the Garden	Matthew 26:36–56
The Case of the Broken Bread	Road to Emmaus	Luke 24:13–35
The Case of the Wind and Fire	God Sends the Holy Spirit	Acts 2:1–21, 37–47

What about other Sunday School levels?

Junior High, High School, and Adults

Unlike other quarters of Concordia Publishing House Sunday School, *I Spy Salvation's Story* does not include youth or adult studies. For these levels consider one of the many other CPH Bible study resources for the thirteen weeks of summer. Concordia's online Bible Study Finder makes it easy to find the perfect resource for your setting: <http://www.cph.org/biblesearch.aspx>.

Leading *I Spy Salvation's Story*

Staffing for *I Spy Salvation's Story* lets volunteers work from their strengths. Each leader works in a role designed to let him or her be most effective.

Large-Group Opening Leader

The large-group leader begins each week's adventure during Opening. This leader needs the energy and confidence to work with a large group of children. The Opening leader should have the ability to get kids excited about learning. The large-group leader sets the tone for the day; choose this leader—or leadership team—carefully. Because of the variety of ages involved, it is important to select a large-group leader who communicates well with students.

Level Leaders

Your *I Spy Salvation's Story* level leaders do what they do best. Volunteers who feel comfortable teaching students would be ideal leaders for the level A & B sessions. For the most effective learning environment, level leaders should be consistent from week-to-week. Those with a love for crafts, music, science, and other learning activities would be excellent helpers for the We Live activities you choose. Since activities may vary each week, volunteers may take turns serving.

I Spy Salvation's Story Resources

The *I Spy Salvation's Story* leader materials provide all of the resources your volunteers need to effectively share God's Word with children.

- Level A Leader Guide
- Level B Leader Guide
- Student Leaflets
- Director CD
- Director Guide
- Opening Order
- Opening Devotions
- Bible Words
- Snack Ideas
- Craft Ideas
- Preparing the Lesson
- Decorating Ideas
- Reproducible Pages
- Clip Art
- Bulletin Notes
- Hymn and Song Recordings

Preparing Leaders

In addition to the resources provided in the Leader Packs this *Director CD* contains *Preparing the Lesson* leaflets for each week. Provide all of your volunteer leaders with copies of these devotions as they prepare for each week's lesson.

Summer Extras

Ah, summer! For many, it brings a break from routines, a time of relaxing and celebrating, warmer weather, outdoor activities, fun in the sun. We open our doors and windows, kids take a break from school, and we spend more time at parks and community celebrations. Summer brings fresh opportunities for our churches to reach out to the community.

How well does your Sunday School connect with the surrounding neighborhood and its children? Consider planning a celebration at your church with your neighbors in mind. Is there an event your church does already? How could you help steer that event towards reaching children in your area?

With every event, the possibilities are endless! Of course, any event you plan will be developed based on your location, interests and facilities. Here are just a few ideas to get you started.

- **Block Party**—If allowed in your community, host a block party near your church with lots of fun games and prizes for kids.
- **Parking Lot Party**—Partner with business owners at a nearby strip mall to host the event in their parking lot. Encourage each business to provide some kind of family friendly food or “give away” item for the event.
- **Water or Beach Party**—Include water games, plastic slides, dunk tanks, fishing games, beach-theme music, and the like.
- **World Record Event**—Go for some kind of world record—biggest pizza, largest sandwich, longest gutter ice cream sundae, or the most of almost any kind of activity.
- **Christmas in July**—Invite the people of your church and the surrounding community to donate “back to school” items for kids in need. Collect the items during a “Christmas Party” to thank everyone for their gift to the kids.
- **“Who’s Got Talent”**—Invite everyone to come and be part of a neighborhood talent show.
- **Concert**—Do you have a music group from your church that performs semi-professionally?

Outreach events may not always bear fruit right away. People respond best to personal invitations from those who already participate in your church or Sunday School. Use these existing relational connections. The event may open a door to possibilities that never existed before. The Holy Spirit can use any event—big or small—to help someone to connect with a church family. Your event might just be the spark the Holy Spirit uses to make all the difference—an eternal difference—for some kids and their families.