

Grades 1-3 Lesson Template

Where	Who and What	What you Need
Classroom	Teacher takes attendance Give students a sticker	Paper on table, check off who is here, put onto the clipboard
	Follow Directions: Read directions on page 17 for Option 1	Paper Markers
	Spot the differences page	Worksheet
Large Group	Large Group Time: Leader is Bryan.. He will get you when ready	
Classroom:	Page 12: Review Bible Skills and Group Discussion Questions	Bible Ask Questions
	Choose between "Live the Mission page" activity choice option 1 or 2" See page .23 Give me your heart Or Is it a command?	Option 1: Construction paper, scissors Option 2:
	Give out new memory verse card to those who don't have one (handed out last week)	Memory Verse cards Frames - if needed



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

| **SAY** “ Do you ever find it hard to do the right thing? Why? ”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Spot the Difference” activity page.

| **SAY** “ Today, we will see how Saul started out doing what was right before God, but he ended up disobeying God. ”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: FOLLOW DIRECTIONS



Provide kids with paper and markers. Tell kids that you will direct them to draw four things in order. Explain that they must listen carefully because you will only repeat the list of four things twice. Direct kids to draw a fish, a tree, a smiley face, and a triangle. Allow kids time to draw. Then invite kids to share their drawings, seeing who could follow the directions.

SAY “ Was it hard to remember the order and what you were supposed to draw? Following directions can be challenging. In fact, no one perfectly follows God’s commands. We all sin. Today, we will learn how **SAUL WAS A GREAT WARRIOR BUT CHOSE TO DISOBEY GOD**. He didn’t follow God’s directions for making a burnt offering. ”

OPTION 2: ALL YOUR HEART

Fill a pitcher with water and add in red food color. Use a dry erase marker to draw a heart on the center of a glass cup. Pour a little bit of the water into the cup, so that it’s just below the heart. Ask kids if the heart is full. Pour a little more water in the cup, allowing a bit of water to be in the heart. Ask kids if the heart is full. Continue adding small amounts of water each time, until you finally fill the heart with water.

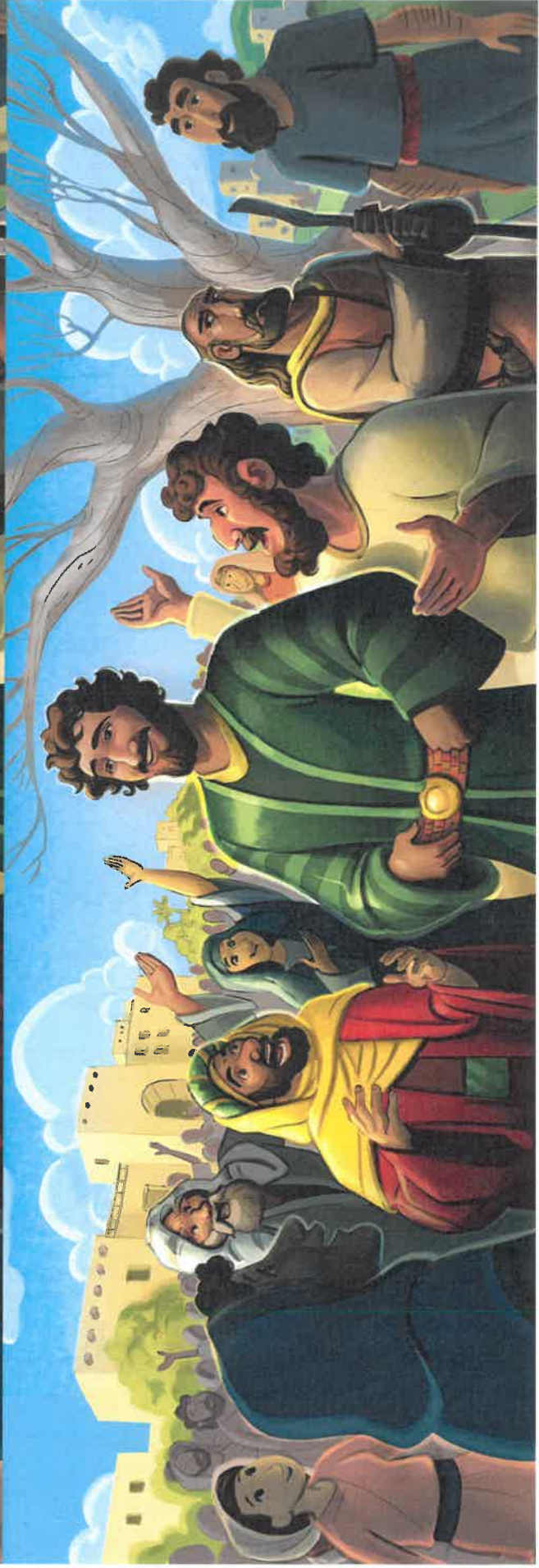
SAY “ Today, we will learn how Samuel told the Israelites to worship God with all their heart. God doesn’t want some of our hearts; He wants all of our hearts. God knows that obeying Him and following Him with all of our hearts is what’s best for us. However, we’ll see how King Saul didn’t worship God with all of his heart. He chose to disobey God. ”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**



Spot the Difference

INSTRUCTIONS: Compare both pictures and circle the 10 differences.





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles, and display the Old Testament Mediterranean Map. Invite kids to practice finding Old Testament and New Testament books, such as Ezra, Isaiah, John, and Ephesians. Guide kids to open their Bibles to 1 Samuel 12.

Consider pointing out the location of Israel (F10) on the Old Testament Mediterranean Map. Choose a volunteer to read aloud 1 Samuel 12:24 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verse aloud.

SAY Samuel realized his time as Israel's prophet was ending. He reminded the people of how they rejected God as their King and chose Saul to be their king. The people realized how they had sinned against the Lord, but Samuel told the people not to be afraid. He encouraged them to keep following the Lord and directed the people of Israel to worship the Lord with all their hearts.

Samuel told God's people that the Lord had done great things for them. God has done great things for us too. While we were sinners, God sent Jesus to save us from our sin. When we trust in Jesus, we are forgiven and through the power of the Holy Spirit can obey God.

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY What are ways people disobey God?

Answers will vary. Remind kids that everyone sins and disobeys God. Even if we think we are a "good" person, we are not perfect like God. People tell lies, hurt one another, say mean words, act selfishly, and so much more. Encourage kids to remember that God knows their sin but made the way for them to be forgiven.

SAY Why does God want us to obey Him?

Discuss how God always knows what is best. He is our Creator and King; He made us to be with Him and His way is always good. Tell kids that obedience to God shows that we believe He is King and His way is best. When we obey God, we are led toward God and toward life with Him. Remind kids that our obedience does not save us but shows we love God.

SAY How can we worship God with all of our hearts?

Tell kids that we can worship God with all of our hearts by putting Him first in our lives and making Him our greatest treasure. God doesn't want some of our hearts; He wants all of our hearts because only God is worthy of our worship. Nothing else in this world can save us or make us fully happy. Only faith in Jesus gives us hearts that want to love God above everything else.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: GIVE ME YOUR HEART

Before the session, cut two hearts from construction paper. Then cut each heart into 10-12 small pieces, making sure the pieces can easily be put back together into a heart shape. Place each set of pieces in individual cups. Form kids into two teams and give each team a cup, cardstock, and glue.

At your start, challenge kids to arrange the pieces back into the shape of a heart. Encourage kids to lay out the pieces on the cardstock, determining the heart shape. Then direct kids to glue the pieces down. The first team to make a heart wins.

SAY ☞ Today, we learned how Samuel told the people to worship God with all of their hearts. **SAUL WAS A GREAT WARRIOR BUT CHOSE TO DISOBEY GOD.** Saul didn't worship God with all of his heart. Instead of putting God first and obeying God, Saul made the burnt offering. He did what he wanted to do rather than what God wanted him to do. When we disobey God, we can ask for forgiveness. We can also ask God to help us love Him above everything else and obey Him. ☞

OPTION 2: IS IT A COMMAND?



Tell kids that God gives us commands to follow in the Bible. Remind kids that God's Word is true and His commands are for our good. Line kids up at one end of the room. Challenge kids to determine if the statement you call out is a command from God or not. If it is a command, tell kids to take a step forward toward you. If it is not a command, tell kids to remain in place. If kids respond incorrectly, they must go back to the start line. Play until one kid is the first to reach you. Consider using the following examples and add more of your own:

- Love one another (John 15:12)
- Go to bed early
- Do not steal (Exodus 20:15)
- Forgive one another (Colossians 3:13)
- Do not be afraid (Isaiah 41:10)
- Never have a messy room

SAY ☞ Only King Jesus perfectly obeyed all of God's commands. Like Saul, we all disobey God. But when we trust in Jesus, God takes away our sin and gives us hearts that want to obey Him. ☞

2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids. If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.