

Lesson 19. S-Lifestyle Gospel Presentation
Third and Fourth Methods
Children's Witness and Special Occasion Witnessing

Outline:

1. Children's Witness
 - 1) Guidelines for Teaching Children to Memorize Bible Verses
 - 2) Helping Nursery Children to Understand Bible Verses which They Memorize
 - 3) Distinguishing between Law and Gospel Bible Verses
 - 4) Action Poems
 - 5) Songs to Easy Tunes
2. Special Occasion Witnessing
 - 1) Types of Occasions
 - 2) Types of Witnessing

1. Children's Witness

Fill in the blanks with these words: non-Christians, children.

Introduction:

There are three groups of people who can be helped spiritually when children sing Christian songs or recite Bible verses and Christian poems. First of all, the _____ present are benefited because they hear the Word of God. Secondly the Christians present can see that a child can participate in witnessing. Of course the _____ themselves are helped because their minds are filled with God's Word.

Fill in the blanks with these words: enjoy, adult, punishment, not.

1. Guidelines for Teaching Children to Memorize Bible Verses

- 1) The purpose for a child to learn Bible verses is ___ to show off or gain praise, but in order to train him up in the way of the Lord. When his heart is full of the Word of God, he is enabled to continually grow in Christ (Pr 22:6). Of course when a child recites the Word of God, it is also a witness to those who listen.
- 2) It should be a happy experience for a child to memorize Bible verses. Thus, whenever possible, pictures should be used with the Bible verses to help the child to understand and ____ the memorization. (See Lessons 11 and 16 for some examples of pictures). The teacher should teach in a joyful manner and readily compliment a child when he makes an effort to recite Bible verses. The teacher might even reward him with a small gift such as candy for memorizing a Bible verse well.
- 3) This means that one should be careful not to make it a negative experience for the child. Do not belittle a child if he cannot readily recite a verse he learned. Do not tell a child that God is unhappy with him when he does not recite the Bible verse well. Do not force him to sit and memorize for long periods of time. And, of course, never use memorizing Bible verses as a _____ if a child misbehaves. If this is done, it makes the precious gift of God's Word into a punishment, and can easily lead a child to dislike the Word of God.
- 4) It is good to encourage an older child to memorize whole chapters or passages of Scripture, if it can be done in a positive and joyful way. This is because a child can memorize much more quickly than an _____. And when a child grows older the Word of God he memorized as a child will still be in his heart and mind. For examples of what chapters a child might memorize, see Lesson 7.

Fill in the blanks.

2. Helping Nursery Children to Understand Bible Verses which They Memorize

There are definite guidelines that one should use in selecting individual Bible verses for a nursery child to memorize and understand. Here we are not talking about an older child memorizing and reciting long passages of Scripture like mentioned above. Rather we are now talking about teaching a little child to understand what he recites recite from the Word of God.

- 1) The nursery child need not memorize the entire Bible verse as he may not understand what it means. Though the entire verse is not memorized, the exact words from the Bible should be used. For instance in the Bible verse from Ge 1:27, the child needs to recite only the words, “God created man 上帝造人.” In Rev. 1:5, he needs to recite only the words, “Jesus loves us 耶稣爱我们.” In both cases, these words are copied directly from the text. It is important not to pull words out of context (断章取义). Obviously in the above examples, these words to be memorized express the same thought as the entire text.
- 2) The small child need not memorize the Biblical location of the text, as he cannot yet _____ what that means.
- 3) Though the child cannot read, it is important to show him in the _____ where the words he is reciting are found. In your own Bible underline the portions of Scripture that you teach a child to memorize. Use your Bible to show him that he is memorizing from God’s holy book, the Bible.
- 4) The following list of Bible verses from four to nine characters long was specially selected in order to be appropriate for a nursery child to memorize:
Gen 1:27, Isaiah 1:17, 1 Thess 5:16, 1 John 4:7, Psalm 116:1, Matthew 22:39, Ephesians 6:1, 2 Timothy 1:3, 1 John 4:16, Mark 16:6, Proverbs 17:17, Romans 3:23, Exodus 15:1, Luke 11:1, John 20:31, Psalm 28:7, Ps 38:15, Ps 136:26, Galatians 2:20, Isaiah 12:2, Psalm 85:8, Ps 122:1, 1 Corinthians 15:3.

Nursery Children’s Bible Verses 幼儿园圣经金句

- a) These verses were carefully selected to ensure that every time *He* 祂 appears, it means God or Jesus.
- b) Every time I or we appears it means the child himself.
- c) No verses with the word you were selected.
- a) In the above list there is a total of _____ verses with no pronouns such as *he, I/we* in them.
- b) To make it easier for a small child to understand the material he is memorizing, this type of verse (without pronouns like *he, I/we, you, they*) is best.
- c) When the verses do not contain words such as *I, we*, etc., the child does not have to think about the person to whom these might refer. He knows by the words in the Bible verse about whom the verse is speaking.

School Children’s Bible verses

Fill in the blanks.

3. Distinguishing between Law and Gospel Bible Verses

- 1) Some of the verses contain the Law and some contain the Gospel.
- 2) Gospel verses tell the children what God has does or has done for them.
- 3) Law verses tell the children what they should or should not do.

- 4) In this list there are a total of _____ Gospel verses and _____ Law verses.
- 5) It is possible that in the area where you live most parents, teachers, and elders tell children more about what they should and should not do, and not so much about how greatly they are loved by God.
 - a. If this is true where you live, then most children there need to hear more about God's love for them, that is—the _____.
 - b. Under such circumstances, it is a good practice to choose more Gospel than Law verses for children to study and memorize.

Exodus 20:12, Exodus 20:15, Exodus 20:16, Psalm 27:10, Psalm 33:5, Psalm 62:8, Psalm 73:26, Psalm 121:7, Psalm 136:1, Psalm 145:9, Proverbs 10:22, Proverbs 18:10, Isaiah 53:4, Lamentations 3:22-23, Matthew 5:44, Matthew 10:8, Matthew 11:28, Matthew 22:37, Mathew 22:39

4. Action Poems

Here are five action poems to teach children to recite while they are doing the corresponding motions. When the children do this, they are a witness to those present, and at the same time their minds are being filled with thoughts of the Lord.

Action Poems

Poem A. God Created Me. God made beautiful flowers (hands in flower shape), , God made tall trees (arms up), God made lovable birds (hands to side flapping), God made me (pointing to self). B. Jesus Takes Care of Me. When I am sleeping (head resting on palms together) Jesus takes care of me. When I am playing (fingers walking on palm of other hand), God takes care of me. No matter whether it is night or day (pointing to self), God takes Care of me. C. Open the Bible. The Bible is God's Word Psalms together), I will open it up and read it (Palms open up). It says, "All things are made by God." The Bible is God's Word (Palms together), I will open it up and read it (palms open up). It says, "God sent Jesus to be the savior." The Bible is God's Word (Palms together).I will open it up and read it (Palms open up). It says, "God lives the little children of the world." D. The Gift that God has Given Me (point to each part of body as it is mentioned): God gave me eyes so I can see. God gave me ears so I can hear. God gave me two hands so I can do things, God gave me two legs so I can run and jump. God gave me two feet, so it is easy to walk. E. God made the moon. God made the moon (use two hands to make round shape above head) , and the shining stars (hands up and fingers moving), He hung them in the sky (extend arm like hanging something). God made the sun (touch thumbs and index fingers to make circle shape) , trees (arms up) and flowers (hands cupped like flowers) , and the little birds (arm off to the side with wrist waving like a bird flying).

The Gospel point that is found in all of these action poems is _____. The Action Poem C. contains the following 3 Gospel points _____, _____, and _____.

5. Songs to Easy Tunes

There are many simple, easy to learn song that enable children (as well as people of any age) can readily sing praises to the Lord as a witness to their faith. Here are two.

) **Song: “Come and Praise the Lord My King” or “Come and Praise the Lord Our King”**

1. Christ was born in Bethlehem, Hallelujah!
Son of God and Son of man, Hallelujah!
2. He grew up an earthly child, Hallelujah!
Of the world but undefiled, Hallelujah!
3. Jesus died at Calvary, Hallelujah!
Rose again triumphantly, Hallelujah!
4. He will cleanse us from our sin, Hallelujah!
Just believe and be baptized, Hallelujah!
5. We will live with Him someday, Hallelujah!
And forever with Him stay. Hallelujah!

CHORUS

Come and praise the Lord our King, Hallelujah!
Come and praise the Lord our King, Hallelujah!

5) **Song: “I Know Jesus Loves Me.” Or “Don’t You Know?”**

(to the tune of “Doe, a Deer”)

Don’t you know that Jesus died,
Raised again in three short days.
Me, the one for whom He died,
Far away He took my sins.
So, I love Him more and more,
Love, I never knew before,
“T”, the shape of Calvary,
Don’t you know Jesus died for you?
Alleluia.

2. Special Occasion Witnessing

As Christians we can create opportunities to proclaim the Gospel by inviting people to our home to celebrate different kinds of events. As the celebration is in our own home, we can determine how to make the special occasion into a good witnessing event. Below is a space to take notes as we hear different ideas from other classmates.

1. Types of Occasions that can be used to proclaim the Gospel:

2. Types of Witnessing Activities that can be included in the program held at the occasions listed above:

3. Teaching Practice

Teach a child (or an adult if you cannot find a child) one of the songs or action poems learned in class today. Report the results of your experience in class tomorrow, including

- 1) the age of the child
- 2) which songs or action poems were taught
- 3) how much time you spent teaching the songs or action poems
- 4) the child's response

4. Plans for the Future

Decide which Bible verses, action poems, and songs you will share with children when you return to your home/workplace. In class tomorrow, share your plans including

- 1) what specific materials from today's class that you will use in the future
- 2) to which children you will teach these materials
- 3) when you will teach these materials

Optional Homework Assignment:

Marking Your Bible for Children

Turn back in this lesson to **1. Children's Witness, Nursery Children's Bible Verses** Find all these Bible verse words in your Bible and underline them. In this way you will be ready to teach children to memorize these words from your own Bible. Remember to underline only the words which the children are to memorize, that is--the portions of the Bible verse which are written in your books.