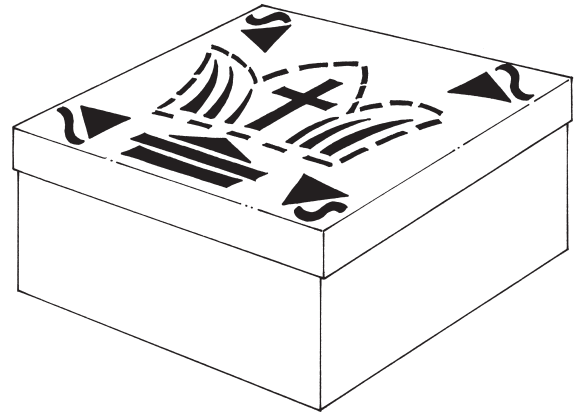


# Blessings Box

## Lesson 1: Jesus Preaches on the Mount

### You Need

- Square papier-mâché box with lid or purchased gift boxes (from discount stores or online source like Amazon)
- File folders
- Stencil patterns (end of craft)
- Pencil
- Scissors or craft knife
- Masking tape
- Acrylic paints: gold, purple, silver & other royal colors
- Paintbrushes (regular &  $\frac{3}{8}$ " stencil)
- Black dimensional paint
- Water-base satin varnish
- Cup of water
- Paper towels



### Get Ready

- Copy pattern page for each student.
- Set out supplies, and make a sample.

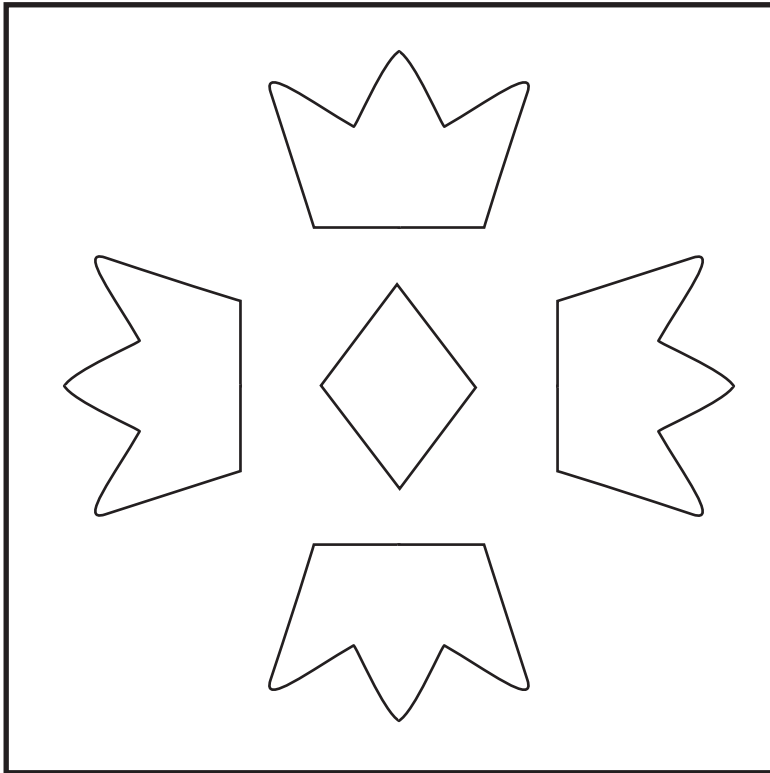
### Introduce the Craft

**Say** Because of sin, our world is filled with suffering, struggles, and sadness. Because of sin, we are separated from God and deserve none of His good gifts. God's Word tells us that Jesus was poor, hungry, sorrowful, hated, and rejected for our sake to pay for our sin and bring us back into a relationship with God. Only Jesus gives real comfort, mercy, and hope. By grace, for Jesus' sake, God forgives your sin. He gives you many gifts and blessings here on earth as well as eternal life with Him in heaven. Show your sample craft.

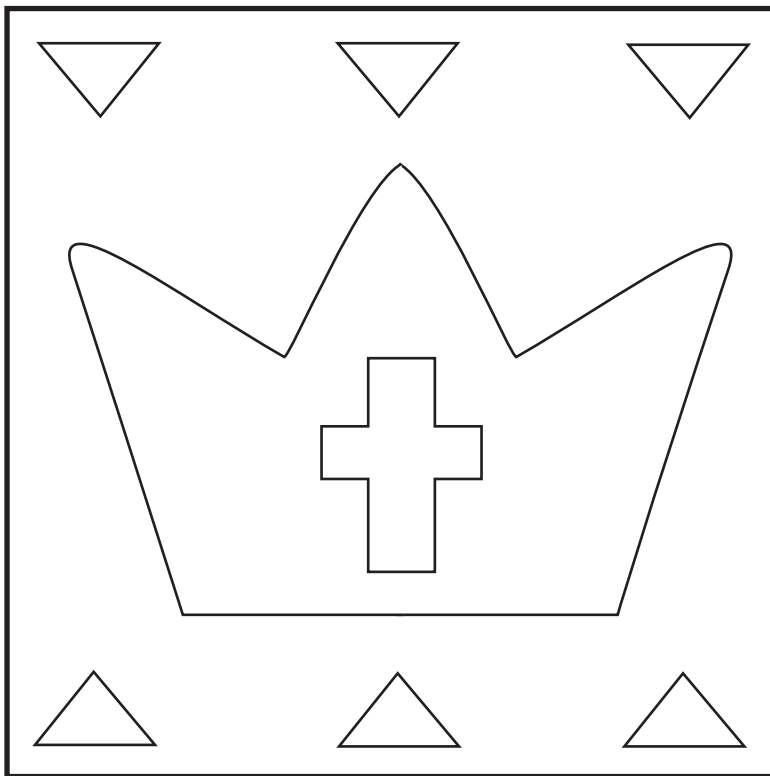
**Today, you'll make a blessings box like this to remind you of all the blessings God gives you through Jesus. You can put special items that others give you in your box. Rejoice in all the blessings God gives you, especially eternal life, forgiveness, and a home in heaven.**

### Do This

- Paint the entire box and lid, inside and out, with gold acrylic paint. Let dry.
- Cut out stencil patterns. Copy the pattern onto a file folder or make your own pattern on the folder.
- Cut out the stencil pattern, and lay it on top of the lid. Gently secure corners with masking tape.
- Use the stencil brush and the purple, silver, and other acrylic paints to paint the stencil design on the lid of the box. Let dry.
- Use the black dimensional paint to highlight and outline desired areas. Let dry.
- Apply two coats of varnish to seal the box. *Option:* Before varnishing, print a Bible verse on your box, such as "Rejoice and be glad for your reward is great in heaven" (Matthew 5:12).



Adjust pattern to match box size.



# Egg-Carton Flowers

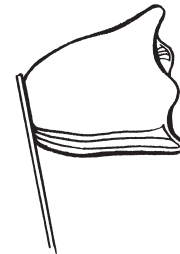
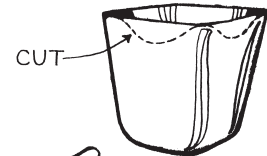
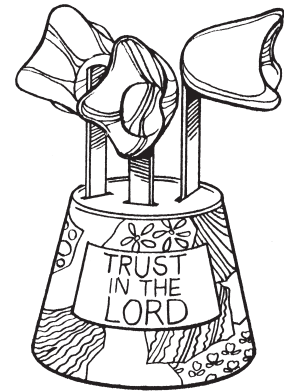
Lesson 2: Jesus Teaches Us to Trust

## You Need

- Cardboard egg carton
- Tempera paint in assorted colors & containers
- Paintbrush
- Scissors
- Glue & water
- Plastic yogurt container
- Fabric scraps
- Construction paper
- Markers
- Popsicle sticks
- *Optional:* Yarn, paper scraps or other embellishments

## Get Ready

- Make a sample.
- Set out supplies.



## Introduce the Craft

**Ask** Do you ever worry? **Accept thoughts.**

**Say** Because we are sinful, we worry, at least some of the time. The opposite of worrying is trusting. Jesus told the people that we can trust God to take care of us because God loves us and knows what we need. Listen to how God's Word comforts our worries. Read Matthew 6:25–34. You can trust your heavenly Father to care for you because He has already provided for your greatest need. He sent His Son, Jesus, to take care of your sin-and-death problem on the cross. God takes care of your needs here and now too.

Today, you will make a container with some flowers to remind you of today's lesson. Like the birds and flowers, who do not worry because God cares for them, you do not need to worry about the cares of this life either. God loves and takes care of you and all His creation.

## Do This

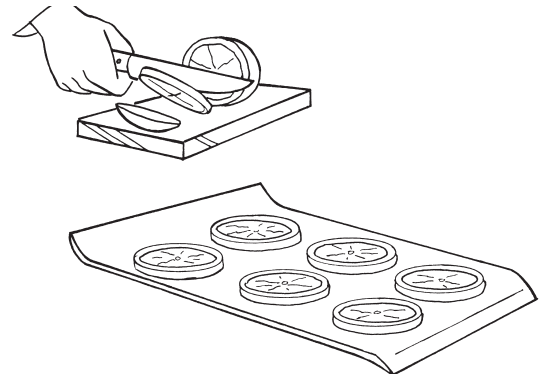
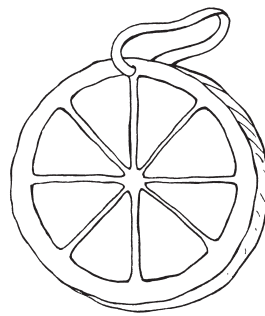
- Cut egg cups from the carton. Cut curves between the four corners of each cup, as shown in diagram.
- Paint egg cups with tempera paint. Let dry.
- Paint Popsicle sticks green. Glue a stick to the back of each egg cup.
- Cut fabric into small pieces.
- Mix glue and water, one part each. Brush glue over the plastic container and decorate with fabric scraps.
- Turn the container upside down and cut small slits. Insert the Popsicle sticks through the slits.
- Cut a construction paper rectangle and write "Trust in the Lord" on it. Glue the rectangle on the container.
- *Optional:* Glue yarn around the edges of the flowers. Cover the sides of the container with paper scraps or other embellishments.

# Sweet-Smelling Flower

## Lesson 3: Jesus Is Anointed

### You Need

- Orange
- Knife
- Cookie sheet or drying rack
- Craft stick
- Foam or play dough
- Clay flowerpot or Styrofoam cup
- Bible
- *Option:* Ribbon for hanging & large needle



### Get Ready

- The week ahead, cut orange slices about ¼" thick. Place on cookie sheet and bake at 200 degrees F. Air-dry in a warm, dry place till leathery.
- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.

### Introduce the Craft

**Say Today, you will make a scented flower from an orange slice. Its fragrance can remind you of the sweet-smelling ointment the woman put on Jesus' feet.**

**Ask Why do you think the sinful woman washed Jesus' feet with her tears, wiped them with her hair, and put perfumed ointment on them? *Accept answers.***

**Say The Bible says, "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19). The woman was grateful for Jesus' love for her, a sinner. Her actions show her gratitude and love for Him in response to His great love for her. Jesus tells the woman she is forgiven not because she brought Him a gift, but because her gift showed her faith in Him.**

**Ask What has Jesus done for us? He has redeemed us that we may be His own and serve Him.** Discuss ways we serve God by serving others, including sharing the flower with someone to cheer him or her up.

### Do This

- Push a craft stick into the side of a dried orange slice.
- Write a favorite Bible verse or the Bible Words for today on your stick.
- Place the opposite end of the stick in a piece of foam or lump of play dough.
- Put the foam or play dough in the bottom of a clay pot or Styrofoam cup. Secure in place.
- Cut leaves from construction paper. Attach them to the stick.
- *Option:* Punch a hole in the rind with a needle. Tie a ribbon through it for hanging as a medallion.

# Pizza Plate

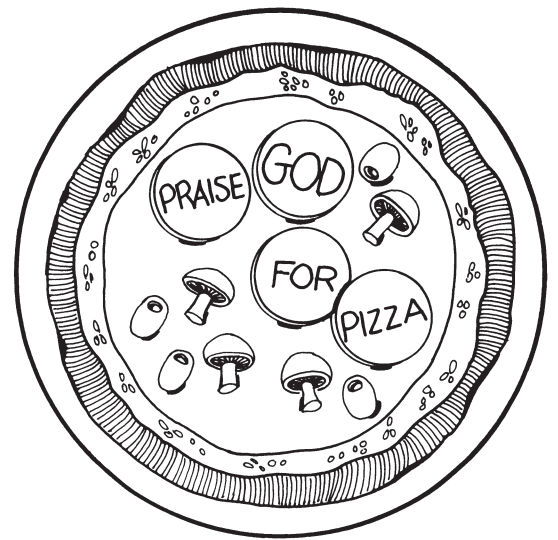
## Lesson 4: Jesus Feeds Five Thousand

### You Need

- Paper plate
- Gray crayon
- Brown, red & yellow construction paper or other assorted colors
- Scissors
- Glue
- Marker
- *Optional:* Dry macaroni, confetti, stickers

### Get Ready

- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.
- *Optional:* Use yellow food coloring to dye dry macaroni yellow.



### Introduce the Craft

**Say** Who was worried in our Bible story? **The disciples.** What problem did they have? **They did not have enough food for the hungry people.** How did Jesus fix their problem? **He miraculously multiplied the food to feed everyone.**

**Say** We are often like the disciples, aren't we? We don't always trust God to take care of us either. But Jesus gives us many good things. He feeds us physically by giving us plants and animals to eat. Name some of your favorite foods. **Accept answers.** Jesus also feeds us spiritually through the Bible, our Baptism, and one another as we learn about Him.

**Today, you will make something fun to remind you of Jesus' care in providing you food.** Show your sample. **I made a pizza. You can make a pizza or another favorite food, perhaps a cake or hamburger or pot of soup. As you work, think of other ways Jesus cares for you and be ready to share some examples.**

### Do This

- Color the rim of the plate gray for pan.
- Cut a brown circle to fit inside the rim for a crust.
- Cut a smaller red circle for tomato sauce.
- Cut a still smaller wavy, yellow circle for cheese.
- Cut small red circles for pepperoni.
- Add shapes and colors as desired for other pizza toppings.
- Glue in successive order the crust, tomato sauce, cheese, and toppings.
- Use a marker to write "Praise God for Pizza" on the pepperoni slices.
- *Optional:* Add yellow macaroni pieces to the pizza for cheese curds.
- *Option:* Make a cupcake with colored frosting and decorations (e.g., use confetti for sprinkles; add flower stickers). Or make a hamburger or bowl of soup.

# Glitter Cross

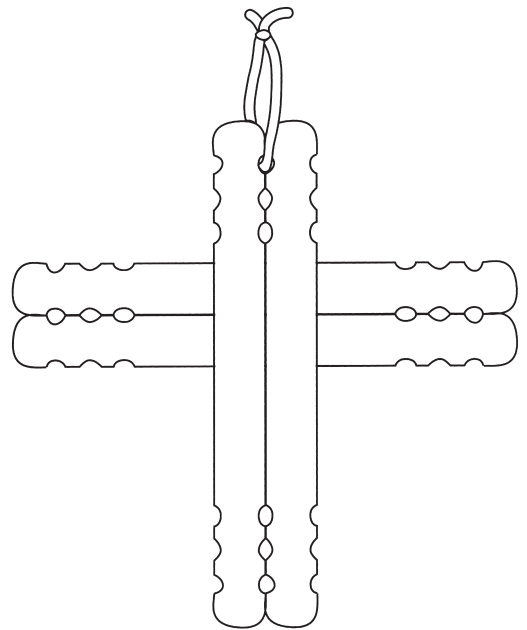
## Lesson 5: The Transfiguration

### You Need

- Notched craft sticks
- Glow-in-the-dark paint
- Craft glue
- Metallic thread
- Glitter, preferably nonmetallic kind
- *Optional:* Tempera or acrylic paint, sequins or other embellishments

### Get Ready

- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.



### Introduce the Craft

**Say Peter, James, and John saw Jesus' glory.**

**Ask How would you describe it?** *Dazzling, awesome, wondrous, etc.*

**Say Jesus' glory is revealed to us in an equally miraculous fashion. Where?** Listen to suggestions. **We hear Jesus' voice in God's Word and in Absolution, when the pastor says our sins are forgiven. We receive His forgiveness in Baptism and the Lord's Supper. But His glory is hidden under the water, a man's voice, and the bread and wine.**

**Ask When will we see Jesus in His full glory?** *At the resurrection, in heaven.*

**Say Today, you will make glitter crosses. The shiny glitter can remind you of when Jesus was transfigured and shone with glory. On that mount of transfiguration, Moses and Elijah appeared in glory and talked with Him about what He would do in Jerusalem. For on the cross there, He would pay for the sin of the world. Jesus gives you forgiveness and a home in heaven with Him, where you will see Him in all His glory!**

### Do This

- Glue two craft sticks to each other side by side. Glue two more sticks across these to make a cross.
- Tie a metallic thread through the top hole for hanging, or use a dot of glue to attach a loop of thread to the back of the sticks. Let dry.
- Paint with glow-in-the-dark paint.
- Lightly sprinkle glitter on the wet paint.
- *Optional:* Glue three or four sticks in a row, instead of two. Paint with tempera or acrylic paint. Add sequins or other embellishments.

# Witness Pin

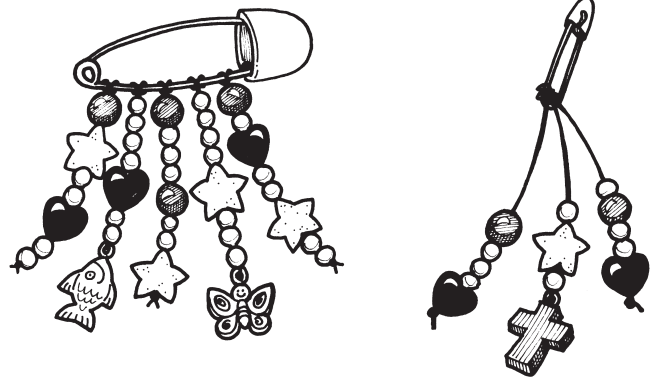
## Lesson 6: Jesus Sends the Seventy-Two

### You Need

- Large safety pin
- Thin elastic cord
- Scissors
- Star-shaped, heart-shaped & round plastic beads
- Butterflies, crosses, fish & other small charms with hooks or loops to attach

### Get Ready

- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.



### Introduce the Craft

**Say** The 72 went out to heal others and teach them about Jesus. God places you in various roles, too, and enables you to do them.

**Ask** Are you a son or daughter? a student? a friend? For each of these, you have responsibilities. For example, as students, your job is to work hard in school. These callings are your “vocations.” They give purpose to your life.

**Say** Because of sin, you don’t always perform your vocations perfectly. But God forgives you for Jesus’ sake because Jesus died on the cross for your failures. Today, you’ll make a witness pin. You can wear your pin on a sweater or jacket or hang it on your backpack. When others notice it, explain the Christian symbols and tell them about Jesus, our Savior. God’s Spirit will help you serve others. He will give you courage to tell them about Jesus’ love and how He suffered, died, and rose again for them too.

### Do This

- Tie a few short pieces of thin elastic onto the loop of a large safety pin.
- Thread beads and Christian-symbol charms onto the cords.
- Knot the cords beneath the last bead on each strand, or fold the elastic cord in half and loop onto the closed arm of a safety pin.
- Repeat to fill the pin.
- Thread beads onto cords.
- Knot the elastic beneath the last bead in each cord.

# Wrapping-Paper Collage

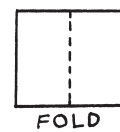
## Lesson 7: The Good Samaritan

### You Need

- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers
- Wrapping paper with flower design
- Glue
- Hole punch
- Yarn
- *Option:* Poster board

### Get Ready

- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.



### Introduce the Craft

**Say** Because of sin, we hurt and get hurt.

**Ask** How did the Samaritan help the injured man? **Accept answers.** If the children cannot recall, read Luke 10:34.

**Say** Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan to teach us how we are to show love to all people. Show sample.

**Today, you will make a heart collage to remind you of how God helps you show His love to those you meet. The heart can also remind you of Jesus' love for you. He is your Good Samaritan. He forgives your sin and earns eternal life for you where there will be no more pain or tears or hurt. Because He loves you and gave His life for you, God empowers you to show love for others. "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19).**

### Do This

- Fold a piece of construction paper in half. Cut a half a heart along the fold. Open the paper to form a heart.
- Inside heart, write "Love One Another" (1 John 4:7).
- Cut flower shapes from wrapping paper.
- Glue the flower around the outside edge of the heart.
- Punch a hole at the top of the heart. Tie a piece of yarn through it for a hanger.
- *Option:* Cut the heart from poster board. Decorate both sides. Hang it as a mobile. Make one for a friend. Or, fold a sheet of paper to make a card. Glue flowers on the front and write a Bible verse on the inside.



# Jesus-Is-with-Ewe Puppet

Lesson 8: The Good Shepherd

## You Need

- 1 large white tube sock
- Thin cardboard
- Scissors
- White puffy 3-D fabric paint
- Steam iron & ironing board (adult use only)
- Black craft foam
- Craft glue
- Black fine-line permanent or fabric marker
- Thin ribbon
- *Optional:* Wiggly eyes

## Get Ready

- Gather supplies.
- Make a sample.



## Introduce the Craft

**Say Sheep need a shepherd to care for them and keep them out of trouble.** Read Psalm 23:1–3. **The shepherd in the psalm cares for his sheep. His love and care for them helps them stay calm and trusting when he is near, instead of being nervous and scared.** Show sample. **The Bible says you are sheep.**

**Ask** When was the last time you felt like a scared sheep? **Accept answers.**

**Say** Jesus is like the good shepherd in the psalm. He feeds you with His Word, the Bible, when you study it, like you are doing now or whenever you hear it read or sung. He helps you remember the water of your Baptism, where He restored your soul by changing you on the inside so you can know He is near. He will guard, guide, and rescue you from sin, death, and the devil. What a perfect Good Shepherd we have in Jesus!

## Do This

- Cut cardboard to lay flat inside the sock. Place it inside.
- On one side of the sock, paint swirls (sheep's wool) with 3-D paint. Leave an area near the top for the face. Let dry.
- Add swirls to the back. Let dry. Remove cardboard.
- Following manufacturer's instructions, use an iron to puff the paint.
- Cut and glue on ears and feet from foam.
- Draw on the eyes and mouth with the marker.
- Glue on ribbon decorations as desired.
- *Optional:* Glue on wiggly eyes instead of drawing them.

# Prayer Book

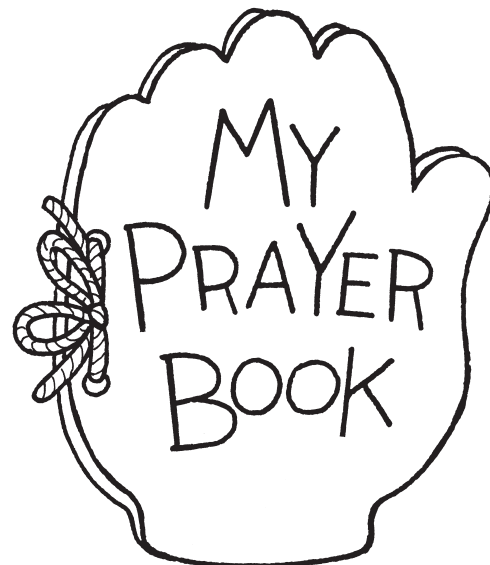
## Lesson 9: Jesus Teaches Us to Pray

### You Need

- Construction paper
- Hole punch
- Yarn or ribbon
- Scissors
- Markers
- *Optional:* Stickers & other embellishments, prayer books

### Get Ready

- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.



### Introduce the Craft

**Ask** To whom are we talking when we pray?  
**God.** In whose name do we pray? **Jesus' name.**

**Say** God hears your prayers for Jesus' sake because He died for you. Jesus prayed often and taught His disciples and us how to pray.

**Today, you will use your hands to make a little prayer book.** Show your sample. **You can use the pages inside your book to list your praise, concerns, and thanksgivings as you take them to God in prayer.**

**God loves to hear you pray to Him, and He promises to hear and answer your prayers because of His Son, Jesus. Sometimes He answers your prayers right away with a yes. Sometimes He answers your prayers with a no or a not now. No matter what, you can trust that He'll always do what is best for you.**

### Do This

- Fold two or more pieces of construction paper in half.
- Put the edge of your hand along the fold. Trace around your hand, and cut out several praying-hand pages.
- Punch two holes along the edge of the fold.
- Cut a piece of yarn or ribbon, and tie the pages together on the outside of the book.
- Decorate the cover, using markers, stickers, or other embellishments.
- Inside, write the names of people for whom you would like to pray.
- Draw their pictures or copy special prayers on the pages of your book.

# Cross Plate Hanging

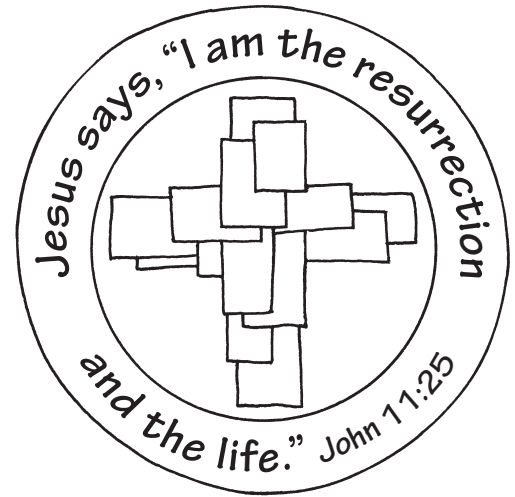
## Lesson 10: Jesus Raises Lazarus

### You Need

- Small paper plates
- Clear adhesive paper
- Colored tissue paper
- Scissors
- Yarn
- Hole punch
- *Optional:* Glitter (nonmetallic)

### Get Ready

- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.
- *Tip:* If class time is short, trace adhesive paper circles to fit over the rim of each plate ahead of time.



### Introduce the Craft

**Say** You just heard how Jesus brought Lazarus back to life.

**Ask** Who else was wrapped in cloth and laid in a tomb, but came back to life? **Jesus.**

**Say** Today, you will make a cross to remind you of Jesus' words to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live" (John 11:25). **Death is the end of our earthly life, but when Jesus returns, He will raise all our bodies out of the ground as He did with Lazarus. And then everyone who believes in Him will live with Him forever.**

### Do This

- Cut tissue paper into small squares.
- Cut the center from a paper plate.
- Trace an adhesive paper circle to fit over the rim of the plate (unless this step is already done).
- Remove the adhesive paper backing and attach it to the rim.
- In the adhesive paper window, add tissue paper squares in the shape of a cross.
- Write these words around the rim of the plate: "I am the resurrection and the life."
- When you are finished, punch a hole at the top of the plate.
- Use a piece of yarn to hang the picture in the window.
- *Optional:* Add glitter to the cross. Glue a second adhesive paper circle over the first one.

# Pig Stick Puppet

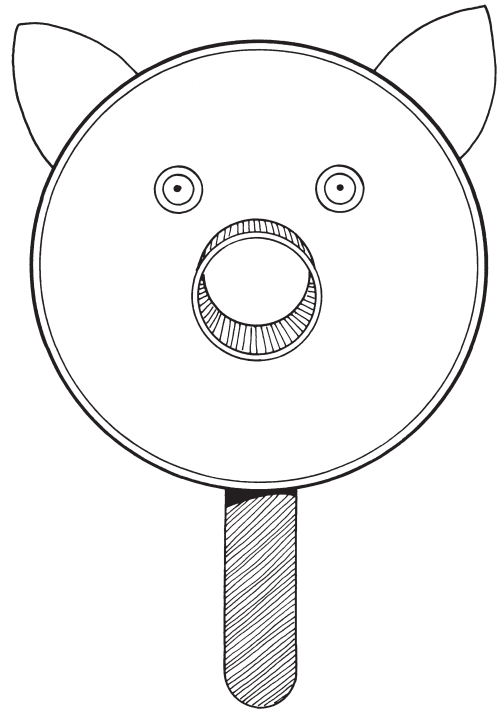
Lesson 11: Jesus Seeks the Lost

## You Need

- Paper plate, 8" diameter (preferably pink)
- Nut cup (pink)
- Glue or tape
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Craft stick
- *Optional:* Pink tissue paper

## Get Ready

- Gather supplies.
- Make a sample.



## Introduce the Craft

**Ask** How are we like the lost son? *We are sinners who don't deserve God's love or forgiveness.*

**What did the father do when he saw his son?** *He forgave him and threw a party for him.*

**Say** The father in the story is an example of what God is like with us.

**Ask** What does God do for us? *God sent His only Son into the world to die so that we can be forgiven for our disrespectful attitudes and irresponsible behaviors. And Jesus rose again so that all who believe in Him can be welcomed home by our heavenly Father.*

**Say** Today, you will make a pig puppet. Show your sample pig. You can use it to retell the story of the prodigal son and how the Father welcomed him back. Your heavenly Father welcomes you through Jesus, who died for you and rose again. He has a special place set aside just for you in heaven. God wants everyone to believe in Jesus! There will be great joy and feasting with God in heaven when all of His children are home with Him (Luke 15:10).

## Do This

- Glue the back of the nut cup to the middle of the paper plate.
- Cut and glue ears onto the top of the paper plate.
- Draw or cut and glue two circles for eyes.
- Glue or tape a craft stick to the back of the plate.
- Hold the pig puppet and have him tell the story of the prodigal son.
- *Optional:* Use wiggly eyes. Tear pieces of pink tissue paper and glue them onto the plate with a mixture of white glue and water.

# Thankful Jar

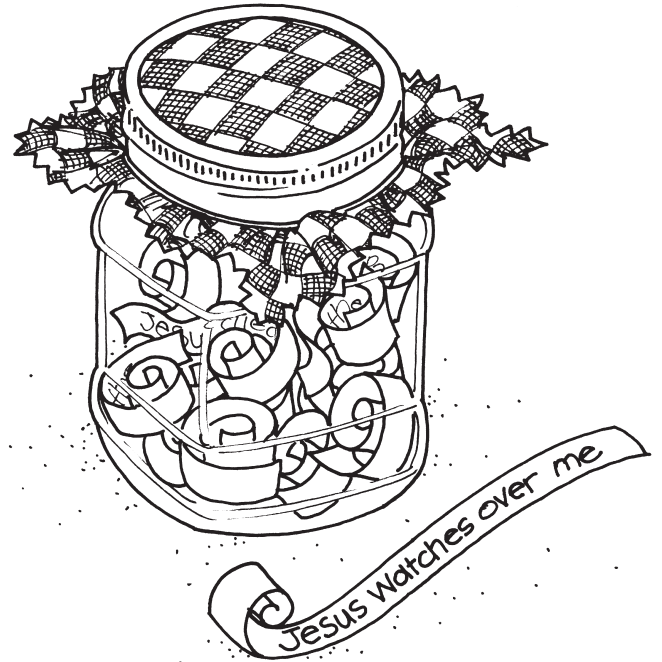
Lesson 12: Jesus Heals Ten Lepers

## You Need

- Canning jar with dome lid & band
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pen
- 7" square of fabric
- Pinking shears

## Get Ready

- Use pinking shears to cut a 7-inch fabric square for each student.
- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.



## Introduce the Craft

**Ask** What does mercy mean? **Accept answers.**

**Say** Mercy is a special type of kindness, a compassion that helps people even when they don't deserve to be helped. Jesus had mercy on the sick men and healed them. Jesus can heal us from sickness too. Sometimes Jesus does not heal us; instead, He is with us and gives us power to live with the sickness.

Jesus also heals us from the hurt caused by this sinful world. He showed you mercy by dying on the cross in your place to pay for your sins and then became alive again to overcome sin, death, and the devil forever. With joy in our hearts, we can thank Jesus for His love, forgiveness, care, and protection.

Show sample. **Today, you'll make a thankful jar. On each strip you can write something Jesus has done for you. Use the strips to thank Jesus for His love.**

## Do This

- If not done ahead of time, use pinking shears to cut a 7-inch fabric square.
- Separate the jar lid from the band.
- Place the fabric square over the lid. Snap the fabric-covered lid into the band.
- On each strip, write something Jesus has done or is doing for you, for which you are thankful (e.g.: Died on the cross for my sins. Rose from the dead to give me a new life. Always watches over me. Answers my prayers. Heals me. Loves me forever.)
- Place the lid on the jar and twist to close it.
- Each day during your prayer time, open the jar and take out one of the paper slips. Thank Jesus in prayer for what the paper strip says He has done for you.

# Stuffed Pillow

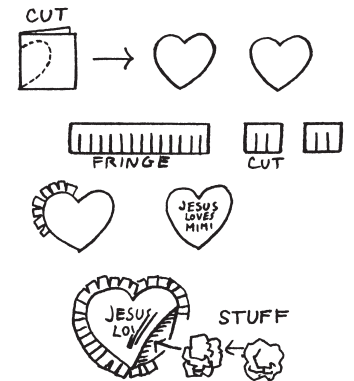
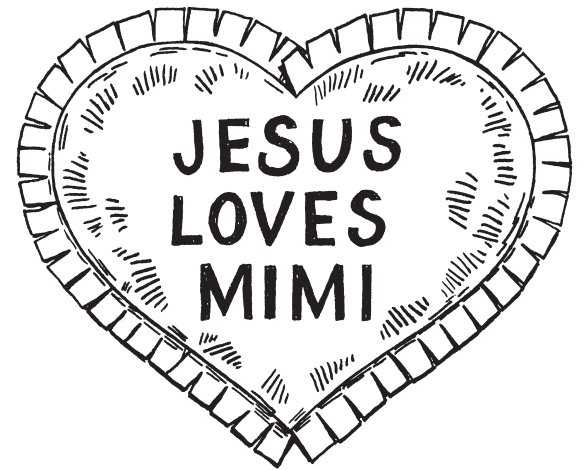
Lesson 13: Jesus Blesses the Little Children

## You Need

- Newspaper or colored wrapping paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers
- Stapler
- *Option:* Poster board, construction paper, decorations

## Get Ready

- Find and download an online heart pattern, if desired.
- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.



## Introduce the Craft

**Say** Jesus welcomed and blessed the little children who were brought to Him. Show craft.

**Today, you'll make a stuffed heart pillow to put in your room as a reminder that Jesus, who loved the little children and welcomed them to Himself, also loves you and is with you today. He provides you with food, drink, house, home, and everything you need to live. Most important, He provided for your salvation.**

**Ask** How did He do that? Jesus paid for our sins on the cross. He calls us to Himself through Baptism and His Word to give us His love and eternal gifts of life and salvation.

## Do This

- Fold two sheets of newspaper or wrapping paper in half. Draw a heart on the fold. Cut out the heart.
- Cut several equal-sized strips of newspaper or wrapping paper. Lay them in a pile and fringe them. Cut the fringed pieces into 4-inch to 5-inch sections.
- Glue the fringed sections around one paper heart.
- Use a marker to write "Jesus loves (your name)" on the heart.
- Staple the hearts together. Leave an opening for stuffing.
- Crumple up small pieces of newspaper. Stuff the heart. When finished, staple the heart closed.
- *Option:* Use poster board or construction paper for the heart. Add other decorations to heart before stapling hearts together and stuffing them. Write your friend's name on the pillow instead of your own. Give it to your friend.