

What We Can Know About God

Backyard Bible Club
"Kid's Club"
Guide



Backyard Bible Club Guide 4

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Getting Started

Servant Life has developed this outline specifically for Backyard Bible Clubs. It is important to note that this is only a suggested outline and is not mandated for use. We would ask however, because there is important information in the pages preceding the actual curriculum itself, that you would please read pages 3 through 6. If your group would be more comfortable using another Vacation Bible School Curriculum, please use what your group can easily prepare and utilize. This guide was created as a resource and an outline that presents Biblical concepts well, however it is by no means the only effective option.

It is also our goal to communicate that this kids' camp guide is meant to serve as a resource for your programming. This plan only covers the major elements of your day: Scripture and Bible story activities, Scripture memory, crafts, and recreation. Your group should be prepared to add other elements to the programming such as songs, puppets, face painting, etc. To reinforce the lessons you are teaching in the minds of the children, it will prove helpful to use physical reminders of what has been taught each day. For instance, one group taught a lesson about how people are God's treasure and after the lesson gave out plastic beads and plastic crowns. Try to find ways like these object lessons that will help the kids understand the concepts on their level.

The ultimate purpose of your group's experience is twofold: first for your students to have the privilege of teaching the Word and leading children to Christ. Second, to learn how to plan and minister both as a group and as individuals. It is important that they take initiative and ownership in the planning time as well as during ministry week.

Finally, we encourage you to be flexible, relax, and have fun. While it is important to plan, you should also plan to be flexible.

Community ministry work is rarely an exact science, and the most important thing that you can do during the week is simply share Christ's love to the children through your time, energy, smiles and prayers. We trust that God will use this experience in your life and the lives of the children to show his glory and bring people to Himself.

Pointers and Discussion

Clean Up – Don't be afraid to utilize the children to clean up. It helps the children feel important and helps your group with their clean up tasks. Clean up is very important because it shows respect to the community.

Free Play in Small Groups – One of the most meaningful times at a children's ministry mission site is when your students can do a low-key activity with just a few children and really invest in them. Have students pair up, and take a small group of 3-5 children to do an activity. Be mindful to keep the groups in a central location. Suggested activities for this time include playing with bubbles, sidewalk chalk, face paint, coloring pictures or even playing on a playground. Each day have your students take the same children so they can really get to know them.

Large Group Recreation - Recreation is a key factor in any Children's Program. Large group recreation can draw children out from their homes very quickly. Kick ball, tag games and parachute games are great to kick off the day. It works well to have an extended and active recreation time directly before asking the children to do a more quiet activity such as crafts or Bible story. It is also recommended on the last day to do some type of water games as a treat that afternoon. Make sure to let the children know to be prepared to get wet, and check with the location contact to make sure it is permissible. Also, have your students practice leading a game before arriving on site...knowing how to play a game and knowing how to lead a game are very different. Finally, remember the cardinal rule of recreation: Kill a game before it peaks, not after...stop the

game before the children are tired of it. If they are still having fun with it, they will want to play it again tomorrow!

Schedule – The schedules provided are just suggestions. No plan will work perfectly for your situation, but there are some general guidelines you can follow:

- 1. Remember that attention spans are short. It is better to do an activity several times throughout the day in short increments rather than trying to do activities that utilize large blocks of time.
- 2. Try to avoid too many high energy or low energy activities at a time. It is good to alternate between the two.
- 3. Ages will vary widely at many locations, and some activities will not be suitable for all ages. Plan to have students available when they are not leading an activity to hang out with the older kids or play with the younger kids. Be ready to adjust your original plan and schedule. Don't ever send a child home, or ignore them, because they are too old or young to participate.
- 4. IMPORTANT: Children are never required to participate in any part of the program. For instance, if they feel uncomfortable participating in Bible Story time, we don't want to force them to do so. Also, parents may hang around during the program welcome them! We have a chance to minister to them as well!

Songs/Puppets – Please note that there is not a list of songs within this guide. Servant Life encourages groups to lead songs they know and are comfortable leading. Also, children love songs done by puppets. If your church does not have puppets or a puppet stage, you can easily make puppets out of construction paper and brown paper bags or long gym socks and use a sheet as a puppet stage. The children love them just the same...you can even have children make their own puppets or give them yours at the end of the week.

Stations/Rotations - Some groups in the past have opted to break into four different stations and have the four groups rotate about

every 15 minutes. This format is suggested for larger groups as it allows you to more adequately accommodate the children's need for attention. This format also increases the likelihood of the children receiving more one-on-one attention from you and your students. Suggested stations include:

- 1. Bible Story/Activity Station
- 2. Craft Station
- 3. Recreation Station
- 4. Activity Station (Face Painting, Bubbles, Sidewalk Chalk, etc.)

Prompting Children to Respond to the Message - Many times in a church setting, an 'altar call' is given to allow children a chance to respond to the gospel message. While we do not want to discourage children responding to the gospel, we want to give some guidelines for how this might be done. In scenarios in which children might respond to the gospel, engage children one-on-one. This helps avoid confusion and mass manipulation. What we want to avoid is an environment where there is confusion with kids going to the front to pray with someone when they still don't really understand what's going on. Hearing one of the lessons may be one step on their journey of understanding the message of Christ and knowing God. They may even be ready to pray to receive Christ. We ask that you would be sensitive and if they do make a 'decision' make sure to get plenty of contact information for them so that we can turn that over to local churches that will follow up with them. There will be contact cards in the Youth Minister packet you were given at registration. Please use these and turn in all of the cards (both blank and filled out) to your site coordinator on the last day. We are doing a disservice to the children if we lead them to Christ, but give them no means of support to help them grow.

What We Can Know About God

This Backyard Kid's Club guide is called "What We Can Know About God." The guide contains Bible stories and examples to which children can relate. It is a three-day program. Each day has a craft, memory verse, and discussion questions to go along with the Bible Story. The purpose of this guide is to explain as simply and clearly as possible to the children what they can know about God using Bible stories. During the week children will learn that God knows best and that we can trust Him. Building on this truth, the children will learn that in His love, God sent his Son Jesus to the world to bring humans back into right relationship with Him. Finally, the children will learn that God promises to help and guide us as we seek to live for Him.

Day 1: God Knows Best

Bible Story Illustration: God Knew Best for Joshua and the Israelites (Joshua 6)

Memory Verse: Joshua 6:17- "The city and all that is in it is to be devoted to the Lord."

Opening Game: (Supplies: 1 small bag of candy ex: Skittles, Tootsie Rolls, etc.). Choose four volunteers. Two of them are going to play Rock, Paper, Scissors. Explain the simple rules of Rock, Paper, Scissors. The other two volunteers are going to be the cheerleaders. Assign them each one of the other players to cheer for. Play multiple rounds of Rock, Paper, Scissors. After each round the cheerleader of whoever wins gets a piece of candy, not the players. After you have played multiple rounds give each player some candy and have the kids take a seat.

The Point: The point of this game will illustrate our Bible story as the Israelites tried to take credit for the work God had done for them. The cheerleaders (who did nothing to win the game of Rock, Paper, Scissors) got all the credit and reward. That doesn't seem right, does

it? Mention this game as you tell the story of how Joshua marched around Jericho.

Discussion starter: Ask the kids if they have ever had to wait a long time to receive a gift. Call on one or two students and have them share. Plan on sharing an example from your own life as well. Once they've told their stories, ask them if the gift was worth waiting for. Tell them that they are going to hear a story from the Bible today about a group of people that had to wait 40 years to receive the gift that God has set aside for them. As you are reading the story, ask the children to think about how great of a gift it must have been if God's people had to wait 40 years to receive it!

Bible Story - Joshua marched around Jericho

A long time ago, God made a promise to a man named Abram in the book of Genesis. God promised this man that He would make for him a great nation and that his family would be a source of blessing for the entire world if he would obey him. Abram obeyed God, and God stayed true to His promise. God blessed Abram's family and grew them into the nation Israel.

Unfortunately, after Abram died, people in the nation Israel often did things that did not please God. The Israelites would try to take the credit for the blessings God had given them. Ask the children if they know what it feels like for someone else to try and take the credit for something they had done (maybe a sibling at home, or a friend at school). Ask them, "How did that make you feel?" Tell them that this angered God, but that he loved the Israelites and forgave them.

God could have stopped blessing them right then and there, but because God loved the Israelites so much, He was patient with them and stayed true to His promise to give them a land to call home. Many years went by and the Israelites thought God had forgotten His promise. Little did they know, that God was raising up a leader named Joshua who would take them to the Promised Land.

In the book of Joshua, chapter 6, we read a story about Joshua leading the Israelites to take over one of the cities called Jericho. God was going to give this city to them in the Promised Land. The people of Jericho did not believe in the God of the Israelites and

mocked their God. Jericho was a huge city that was surrounded by high walls to protect it from people who might invade. The Israelites did not have enough weapons or soldiers to overtake the city, so they needed to find another way. Does anyone have any ideas of how the soldiers might go about invading the city? God provided a way for Joshua, but it may sound pretty strange to us.

God told Joshua that He would give him the city if he followed His instructions. God told Joshua to have the Israelites march around Jericho once a day for six straight days. As they marched, God told Joshua to have seven priests carry with them trumpets made out of ram's horns. On the seventh day, God told Joshua to have the Israelites march around the city seven times. Once they finished marching, the priests were instructed to blow their horns and the people were to give a great shout, and the walls of the great city were going to fall down. I can imagine that the people living in Jericho thought the Israelites were silly to keep marching around the city day after day.

Joshua took great care to do all of these things just as God had told him to do. Although these instructions might have seemed strange to Joshua, he trusted that God knew what was best for him and the Israelites. Joshua knew that God loved them and would stick to His promises. And do you know what? God stayed true to His promise and God allowed Joshua and the Israelites to take the city of Jericho. The Israelites overtook the city and devoted it to the Lord to thank God for giving them the land God had promised many years ago. Do you think the Israelites were glad they waited 40 years for the gift of this city that God had promised to them?

Just as Joshua was able to trust God to stay true to His promises, you can too. I hope that each of you can have confidence that God knows best for your life. He loves you each so very much!

Discussion Questions (you may want to put these on poster board)

- 1. What was the name of the leader of the Israelites?
- 2. What was the name of the city God gave over to the Israelites?
- 3. For six days, how many times a day did the Israelites march around the city?

- 4. How many times did they march around the city on the seventh day?
- 5. What kind of instrument did the Israelites sound once they had finished marching around the city on the seventh day?
- 6. What happened after the Israelites blew their trumpets and shouted?

Activity:

Lead the kids to march around the neighborhood on the sidewalks just as the Israelites did around Jericho. Lead the kids by praying and asking God to move in their homes, in their families, and in their neighborhood.

Conclusion:

End Result: God knew best for Joshua and He knows best for me.

<u>Today's Attitude</u>: I need confidence to trust that God knows best for my life.

Gospel Connection: If Joshua trusted in his own strength, he would have failed. The same is true for us—if we trust in our own strength, we will fail. We must surrender our lives to Jesus. If we turn from sin and trust in Jesus, we can be saved and enter into true relationship with God. The Bible teaches that whoever loses his life for Jesus, that person will actually *find* true life (Matthew 16:24-25).

Memory Verse Cards

Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5	Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5
Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5	Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5
Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5	Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5
Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5	Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5
Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5	Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Craft – Battle of Jericho Trumpet



Supplies:

Large Paper Plate Construction Paper Markers, Ribbon, or Paint Tape Glue Yarn

Step 1: Roll a large paper plate into a cone shape. Fasten it with tape.

Step 2: Glue construction paper around the cone shape, and trim the edges. Use markers or paint to decorate the horn, or glue on ribbon.

Step 3: Slip a piece of yarn through the inside of the horn, and tie the ends to make a handle.

Now you have your own trumpet, just like the Israelites, who blew trumpets at the battle of Jericho.

Day 2: God Sent His Son

Bible Story Illustration: The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)

Memory Verse: Luke 15:23-24 "Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this Son of mine was lost and now is found."

Opening Game: (Supplies: 1 trash can, multiple sheets of copy paper— plus some small prizes like bubbles, candy, or stickers). Let every kids participate in this game. Each child gets 1 piece of paper. Have them crumble up their piece of paper into a ball. From about 10 feet away have each kid try to shoot his or her paper ball into the trash can. If they make it give the kid a small prize. If they miss still give the kid a small prize. Once everyone has had a chance to shoot, the game is over.

The Point: Now this game doesn't seem fair right? It doesn't matter if you make the shot or not, regardless, you still get a prize. This game shows perfectly how God loves us no matter what. Just like the story of the lost son, the father loves both his sons equally.

Discussion starter: Start by asking the children if they have ever lost something that was very valuable to them (or even if they have been lost themselves). Feel free to quickly allow one or two children to share a story. After they respond, tell them a story about a time that you lost something valuable. As you tell the story, feel free to bring a prop to illustrate your story. Emphasize what feelings you experienced as you searched for the item, what you felt when you thought you were not going to find it, and the joy and sense of relief you experienced when you found the item. Tell the children that they are going to hear a story about a son who was lost and the joy the father felt when he found the son.

Bible Story - The Story of the Lost Son

One day, as Jesus was teaching his followers, some of the church leaders came up to Him and asked why He was always spending time with sinners. The sinners of Jesus' day were people

who did not follow the laws of God. You see, the church leaders of Jesus' day thought that since Jesus claimed to be the Son of God, He should not be seen hanging out with sinners. In response, Jesus told them a story about a man who lost his son to explain why he hung out with sinners.

Jesus told his followers a story about a father who had two sons. One day, the younger son (we'll call him Andy) came to his father and asked for his share of the land. See, families back in biblical times would share the land they owned after the dad passed away. It would start with the oldest son getting half of the land and then so on all the way down to the youngest son. It was very unusual and disrespectful for the younger son to ask his dad for his portion of the land. But the father, loving his Andy very much, agreed and gave to him all of the land and money he was owed.

Not long after that, Andy gathered all he owned and set off to a far away land. There he lived wildly, and spent all of the money his father had given him. Even worse, the land was struck with a great famine, and there was no food available for him to eat. In need of money, Andy got a job feeding pigs for a local farmer. Andy was so hungry, that he wanted to eat the food the pigs were eating! Can you imagine being so hungry, that you wanted to eat with pigs?!

Realizing how bad his situation was, Andy came to his senses and said, "How many of the men who work for my father have food to spare, and I am starving to death! I will go back to my father and tell him that I have sinned against him, and that I no longer deserve to be called his son. I will then ask him to make me one of his hired men."

So Andy set off and returned to his father's home. As he was returning home, his father saw him way off in the distance. How do you think his father responded? Do you think he was angry? Instead of being angry, his father was full of love and ran and threw his arms around Andy and gave him a huge hug. Andy said to his father, "Father, I have sinned against you, and no longer deserve to be called your son. Please, welcome me back as one of your servants."

But the father welcomed Andy back with open arms. At once, the father commanded his servant to run and get Andy his finest robe, a ring, and sandals to put on his feet. The father also had his servants killed a fattened calf. This was done only for the most special parties. The father cried out, "Let's have a feast and

celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again!" So everyone gathered at once for a party celebrating Andy's return.

Meanwhile, the older son (we'll call him Bo) was out in the field working. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. Wondering what was going on, he asked one of the servants. The servant told him that Andy had returned home, and that his father was throwing a celebration for him. This made Bo mad, and he refused to join in the celebration. Why do you think he was angry when Andy returned? The father went out to Bo and pleaded with him to come and join the celebration. But Bo replied, "All of these years father, I have served you and never disobeyed you. Not even once have you honored me so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when Andy returns after wasting all of the money you gave him, you throw a big party for him! This is not fair!" Have any of you ever had a time when you felt like your parents treated you unfairly?

The father pulled him close and said to Bo, "You are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we must be glad and celebrate and be happy today, because this brother of yours was lost and now is found."

We can learn a lot about God's love for us as we listen to this story. Like the father in the story, God loves his children very much and celebrates when one of his children returns to him. God knows when we disobey Him. Even though this hurts Him, in His love, God welcomes us back with open arms when we confess that we have done wrong before Him. God also loved us so much that He sent His Son Jesus to the world that if we believe in Him, we might be able to know God. Jesus came and lived a perfect life and died on the cross as the punishment for the sins we have committed. Let's take a minute and pray and thank God for loving us and sending Jesus to the world so that we might know Him.

Discussion Questions (you may want to put these on poster board)

- 1. What did the younger son do with the money his father gave to him?
- 2. The younger son wanted to eat the food of what barnyard animal?
- 3. How did the father react when his son returned to him?

- 4. How did the older brother feel about the way the father treated the younger son?
- 5. How did the father respond to the attitude of the older brother?
- 6. Does God care about those who are lost and do not know Him?
- 7. Who did God send into the world so that we might know Him?

Activity:

Reenact the story of the lost son. Have one volunteer play the role of the prodigal son and leave the group. He can even pretend to act like a pig! When he/she comes back after a few moments, have the kids sing and jump and dance and party just like they did in the story! (You could also play a game of Hide and Seek and celebrate every time someone is found!)

Conclusion:

End Result: God sent His Son Jesus to save those who are lost.

<u>Today's Attitude</u>: Thank you, God, for sending Jesus.

Gospel Connection: We are just like the prodigal son who has chased after the things of this world (and sin) instead of remaining in true relationship with the father. But if we repent of our sin and place our faith in Jesus, we can be saved from our sin and have relationship with God again.

Memory Verse Cards

Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24	Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24
Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24	Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24
Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24	Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24
Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24	Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24
Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24	Let's have a feast and celebrate, for this son of mine was lost and now is found. Luke 15:23-24

Craft - Prodigal Son Paper Bag Puppet

Supplies:

1 Paper Lunch Bag per Child Upper Face Cutouts (Eyes, Nose, Upper Lip) Lower Face Cutouts (Tongue, Lower Lip, Chin) Body Cutouts Colored Construction Paper &/or Colored Tissue Paper Hair Colored Yarn (Yellow, Orange, Red, Brown, Black) Markers & Crayons Scissors (Child Safe) Glue



Step 1: Using the templates, print copies of the face cutouts for each child. You can either print

these out on a skin colored paper or allow the students creative freedom to color each of the pieces as they see fit.

Step 2: Provide each child with a bag and write his or her name on the bag. The long, flat uninterrupted side will be the back of the puppet and the front side will be the one with the folded bottom. Place the template cutouts, markers, crayons, construction paper, and glue in the center of the table and allow the children to color and cutout their templates.

Step 3: Help the students as they cut and glue the templates onto their lunch bags. The upper face template should be glued to the folded bottom on the front of the bag while the lower face template should be placed underneath the folded bottom. Arms should be placed on the two sides of the paper bag. Using construction paper, the children can give the puppet clothes, a hat, or jewelry. The yarn can be used to give the puppet hair.

Step 4: As you do this craft, use this time to ask them questions about yesterday and today's bible story. Remind them that "God Sent His Son" and no matter who we are, where we live, or what we do God will always love us.

Day 3 God Will Help Us

Bible Story Illustration: Jesus Heals the Paralyzed Man (Luke 5:17-26).

Memory Verse: Luke 5:24 "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home."

Opening Game: (Supplies: 2 bed sheets, 2 teddy bears). Choose eight volunteers and split them up into two teams of four. Each team will place the teddy bear on the center of the sheet to represent the "paralyzed man." The four teammates must grab a corner of the sheet and carry them to a designated point and back to the starting line. You can have each team race or make it a time trial race. The team who transports their teddy bear the fastest wins.

The Point: The purpose for this game is to illustrate the story as well as show the kids that they are to work together as a team. If one of the four drops their corner then the whole team falls apart. The paralyzed man needed his friends to bring him to Jesus. Have you ever helped bring someone in need to Jesus? How are you helping your friends see Jesus in you?

Discussion starter: Ask the children if they have a best friend. Find out what it is they like about their friends. Have several children talk about their answers and share. Feel free to briefly share about your best friend and what it is that you like so much about him or her. Tell the children that they are going to hear a story today about a paralyzed man who had some incredible friends that went out of their way to help their friend get healed. Stop and thank God for the good friends we have in our lives, and then proceed with the story.

Bible Story - Jesus Heals the Paralyzed Man

One day, Jesus was sitting in a house teaching His followers and many who had come from nearby villages about God. On that day, a group of friends came to Jesus carrying one of their friends who was paralyzed. They had heard that Jesus could heal people and that he could make people who were crippled walk again. The

friends had faith that Jesus could heal their friend, and knew they had to find a way for their friend to meet Jesus. The only problem was that there were so many people in the house, it was far too crowded for the men to get to Jesus. Have any of you all ever been in a place that was so crowded that you could not move? That was what this was like. The friends had to come up with another plan to get their friend to Jesus.

The friends decided that since they could not get in the front door of the house, they were going to have to lower their friend down from the roof! So the friends did just that. They climbed up on the roof and cut a hole out of the tiles on the roof big enough so the stretcher their friend was laying on could fit through the hole. Once they had cut the hole, they slowly lowered their friend down. Can you imagine the look on the faces of the people in the house when they saw a man being lowered down on a stretcher through the roof?!

When Jesus saw the faith of the men, He said to them, "Your sins are forgiven." This angered the church leaders because they knew that only God could forgive sins. By saying the sins of these men were forgiven, Jesus was claiming He was God. To prove to the church leaders that He was in fact God, Jesus looked down at the paralyzed man and said, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home!" Immediately, the man who had been paralyzed got up, took his mat, and walked home. As he walked, the man praised God and told about Jesus healing him. All of the people who saw the work that Jesus had done were filled with wonder at the healing miracle they had just seen.

From this story, we can know and trust that God will help us. God cares about those who believe in Him. God helps us in many ways. Just like in the story, God can heal us when we are sick. God gives us great friends to help us out in life. Can anyone share about some great friends who have helped you in your life? Let's take some time and thank God for caring about us and giving us good friends to help us in life.

Discussion Questions: (you may want to put these on poster board)

- 1. At the beginning of the story, why couldn't the friends get the paralyzed man to Jesus?
- 2. What did they do when they couldn't get in the front door?

- 3. Why did the church leaders get mad at Jesus?
- 4. What did Jesus say to the paralyzed man?
- 5. What happened to the paralyzed man after Jesus spoke to him?
- 6. How did the paralyzed man act after he Jesus healed him?
- 7. Can we trust that God will help us in our times of need?

Activity:

(Supplies: 2 large sheets of butcher paper, markers or crayons). Choose 2 volunteers to lay down on the sheets of paper to be traced. Then divide everyone into 2 groups, each surrounding one of the drawings. Have each team of children write down ways that they can show Jesus' love to others. Instruct the kids to write these things over specific areas of the body they relate to. Examples: "Use kind words" can be written near the mouth on the drawing, "Washing the dishes" can be written near the hands, "Having a good attitude" can be written near the heart, etc. After they have exhausted their ideas, allow the teams to show their drawing and share the ideas with the others.

Conclusion:

End Result: God cares for those who believe in Him.

<u>Today's Attitude</u>: Trust that God will help us in our times of need.

Gospel Connection: Remember that God has already met our greatest need by saving us from our sin—if we have trusted in Him. We will have physical hardships in this life, but we know that God is in control of every circumstance. We can also rejoice because we know that this life is not the end for us; we endure hardships now, but we will spend eternity with the Father in heaven and free of hardships.

Memory Verse Cards

I tell you, get up, take	I tell you, get up, take
your mat and go home	your mat and go home
Luke 5:24	Luke 5:24
I tell you, get up, take	I tell you, get up, take
your mat and go home	your mat and go home
Luke 5:24	Luke 5:24
I tell you, get up, take	I tell you, get up, take
your mat and go home	your mat and go home
Luke 5:24	Luke 5:24
I tell you, get up, take	I tell you, get up, take
your mat and go home	your mat and go home
Luke 5:24	Luke 5:24
I tell you, get up, take	I tell you, get up, take
your mat and go home	your mat and go home
Luke 5:24	Luke 5:24

Craft – God Will Help Us Bookmark

Supplies:

Card Stock Paper cut into 8.5" x 2" strips Sticker Letters Decorations (Stickers, Glitter, Feathers) Hole Puncher Ribbon/Hemp String cut into 6" strips



Step 1: Write for each student on each cut out bookmark "God Will Help _____" (without the underline). Then reference **THEME VERSE** at the bottom.

- Alternative: Allow the children to write "God Will Help _____" by themselves.
- **Step 2**: Allow each student to use the sticker letters to spell his or her name in the underlined space.
- **Step 3**: Encourage the students to write the theme verse of the day somewhere on their bookmark as a reminder. If there is not sufficient room on the front, encourage them to write it on the back of the bookmark.
- **Step 4**: Give students the decorations to put their own personal touch on their bookmark. Allow the students to decorate the back of their bookmarks, assuming there are extra supplies.
- **Step 5**: During the course of this craft, take the time to review the events of the week with the kids. In addition, remind them that "God Knows Best", "God Sent His Son", and "God Will Help You". Be prepared to answer any questions the students may have about the week as discussions arise. Also, be open to God moving through the students even during craft time.



