



Lemont United Methodist Church
Sunday School



Notes to Parents

Dear Parents,

November 2006

When you get a new cell phone, do you pull out the instruction manual? When a light on your car's dashboard starts blinking, do you look in the owner's manual? When you put together a bike or a grill, do you follow the instructions? Some people immediately pull out the directions; others like to try things on their own first. However, most people will agree that challenging projects are easier with directions handy. Wouldn't it be nice to have an instruction manual for life? We do! God gave us the Bible as our instruction manual, and it can help us handle the tricky situations that life often throws our way. At LUMC, we strongly believe that the Bible can make a difference and we give Bibles to all Sunday School children in 3rd grade. But besides using them in class on Sunday, how often do they read those Bibles? Let's face it, most kids would not think of the Bible when looking for a good book to read. The problem is that if they aren't used to looking in God's instruction manual, they probably won't think about it when they need it. It's going to be up to us parents to help our children see the Bible as the wonderful resource that it can be. We need to make the Bible relevant to them and their lives. The column on the right lists tips from "Children's Ministry Magazine" for making the Bible relevant for kids. For those of us that do not know the Bible well ourselves, we can also search the internet to help us find Bible references or use a Children's Bible that includes story links and devotions. The important thing is to make sure our children's experiences and the ways they hear about God, line up with His word. Our extra effort will pay off when our children learn that the Bible is not just a resource for Sunday School, but for life!

Yours in Christ,
Karin Peraino & Mary Rohrer

To Do List:



- ✓ Return Trick or Treat for UNICEF boxes
- ✓ Bring in non-chocolate candy for soldiers
- ✓ Give thanks on Thursday, 11/23/06

Tips to Get Kids Reading the Bible



1. Discover Kids' Interests

For example, if kids are into music, show them the Psalms. Help them make modern tunes to David's ideas. Or help them locate the bible passages referred to in their favorite church songs. Many of them already can sing "John 3:16" from Vacation Bible School.

2. Use Kids' Life Experiences

For example, if kids are having sibling problems, look in the bible for stories about Cain & Abel or Mary & Martha. If they've done something seemingly unforgivable, check out stories on David or Peter. Help them figure out WWJD (What Would Jesus Do) through bible stories.

3. Think Like a Boy

If you have sons, what interests them? Think about their heroes and their characteristics. Now think about God's characteristics to which boys would most relate. Show them God's macho side!

4. Bring on the Girls

It may seem like many bible stories are about boys, but there were also women in bible times. Discuss what it might have been like to be a woman during the stories. What do you think Noah's wife did when he decided to build an ark?

5. Show kids the Bigger Picture

Most kids realize that the Bible is a book of stories about God, but they don't realize that these stories are interrelated. Help them understand the chronology. Kids like books that are in series (e.g., *Harry Potter* and *Chronicles of Narnia*). Even better, bible stories are records of exciting true events, not just fairy tales!

6. Be a Role Model

Get excited about the Bible and read it yourself. Or pick up a daily devotional guide to put it in life-related, bite-sized pieces. Let them see you reading the Bible. Tell them what you are learning each week and how it makes a difference in your life!

FaithWeaver

FaithWeaver Bible Curriculum – Weaving Faith Through Life!

Using FaithWeaver, teachers will teach as Jesus taught, with a variety of learning experiences and interactive discussions. All grade levels will cover the same lesson, which can make follow-up discussions easy and interesting. Take home pages will be provided to keep you informed and allow you to continue the learning at home. Lessons move chronologically through the bible—Old Testament in the Fall, New Testament in the Winter/Spring.

- ✦ **Memorable Bible Lessons:** The experiential lessons connect from church to home, moving Bible lessons beyond church walls and into people’s lives!
- ✦ **Relevant for Today—and Every Day:** Each learner, no matter the age, sees how God’s Word is relevant to their lives, then applies it every day.
- ✦ **Reinforced Bible Learning All Week Long:** The HomeConnect™ section on each student page, everyone studying the same Bible story, and Driving Home the Point take-home pages help make this happen!
- ✦ **Know How to Live Like Christ:** Participants take what they’ve learned in class and use it to shape decisions about how they live their daily lives.

Although we hope to see every student each week, we realize that schedules sometimes do not allow that. Below is a calendar of upcoming lessons so that you may review them at home with your child if he/she should have to miss.

Lesson & Date	Bible Story	<i>Scripture</i>	Key Verse	Bible Point Ages 3-5	Bible Point Grades 1-HS
FALL 2006 (Old Testament)					
10) 11/05	Joshua Becomes Leader of Israel	Joshua 1;1-11	Joshua 1:9	<i>God helps us</i>	<i>God helps us accomplish his plans</i>
11) 11/12	Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho	Joshua 2:1-24	Hebrews 11:6	<i>Believe in God</i>	<i>We can have faith that God will do big things in our lives</i>
12) 11/19	The Israelites Cross the Jordan River	Joshua 3:1-4:24	1 Chronicles 16:8	<i>Remember to Thank God</i>	<i>Remember what God has done</i>
13) 11/26	God Gives Victory Over Jericho	Joshua 6:1-27	1Peter 5:6-7	<i>God is Powerful</i>	<i>God's power works for good in our lives</i>
WINTER 2006-2007 (mostly New Testament)					
1) 12/03	Prophets Foretell Jesus' Coming	Jeremiah 33:14-16	Matthew 1:22-23	<i>God keeps His Promises</i>	<i>God promised to send a Savior</i>
3) 12/10	John Prepares People for Jesus' Coming	Luke 3:7-18	1 John 1:9	<i>We need to get ready for Jesus</i>	<i>Repenting prepares us for Jesus</i>
4) 12/17	The Son of God is Born!	Luke 1:26-45; 2:1-20	Isaiah 9:6	<i>Jesus was born</i>	<i>Christians celebrate Jesus' Birth</i>

Notes: Pancake breakfast on 12/17 at 9am. No Sunday School on 12/24 and 12/31.