

“I Know It Sounds Crazy...” - LESSON 1

“Don’t Keep It To Yourself!”

Main Focus:

Christians must share the truth of God’s love with everyone



Power Verse:

“...Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere.”

– Mark 16:15



Watt’s Up:

“I Will Share God’s Love With The World!”

LEADER’S INFO

As Christians, we have found the greatest gift the human race has ever known: salvation. God’s love is something that every Christian should hold dear.

In this lesson, the children will learn through the story of the lepers in 2 Kings 7 that we should never keep this amazing gift to ourselves. We must recognize that God gave us the gift of salvation in order for us to share it with others.

We must never be guilty of keeping God’s love to ourselves. We must do everything we can do to tell the world about the great gift we have found: God’s amazing love!



“The Spark” Intro Video

“Noah Lottz”



“Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video

Skittles teaches “Watt’s Up?”



Character Skit

“Chuck Foo”



Offering Time



Game On!

“Bucket Head”



Bible Story

“The Lepers Who Shared”



Power Verse Video

“...Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere.”

– Mark 16:15



Call To Action

“Don’t Keep It To Yourself”



Brain Drain

PowerPoint Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

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Power Verse:

“...Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere.”

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Watt’s Up:

“I Will Share God’s Love With The World!”

ORDER OF SERVICE

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PowerPoint Review Game

Small Group Experience



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “**Chuck Foo**” (a wanna-be Karate instructor with a slight Minnesota accent; he is more accident-prone than fearsome)

CHUCK: (comes out running, kicking and karate chopping like he’s in the middle of a kung-fu movie)

Leader: WHOAH! Are you alright?

CHUCK: Of COURSE, I’m alright! I’M CHUUUUUCK FOO! Kung Fu EXPERT and amateur STUNTMAN!

Leader: Your name is (spelling it out) “chuuuuuuck foo?”

CHUCK: No, no, no. My name isn’t that long! It’d be ridiculous to have a name with that many letters in it! Think about how long it’d take to write it down! It’s just CHUCK FOO! And I am here to KARATE CHOP some SENSE into all of these critters!

Leader: Critters??

CHUCK: Yes, CRITTERS! Young’uns, rugrats, LITTLE PEOPLE!

Leader: Oh, you mean the KIDS!

CHUCK: Sure, those too! Now LISTEN UP! I hear you all telling the kids how they’re supposed to be telling the WHOLE WORLD this GREAT TRUTH about the BIBLE and whatnot!

Leader: That’s right! We’ve got the GREAT TRUTH of the Bible and need to share it with the ENTIRE WORLD!

CHUCK: Ah, I see okay – (pauses, then gets in the leader’s face) AREYOU CRAZY?!

Leader: Excuse me?

CHUCK: NUTSO! BONKERS! LOOPY! GOOFY! EL PRESIDENTE DEL CRAZYTOWN!

Leader: What are you TALKING about??

CHUCK: Listen; do you SERIOUSLY want these kids to actually SHARE the good news about JESUS?? Do you know what happens when people SHARE stuff?! IT GETS MESSED UP! It’s like letting your little SISTER borrow your comic books! The corner’s get bent, the cover gets scratched, SPIDERMAN GETS PINK RIBBONS DRAWN ON TOP OF HIS HEAD! And you want the kids to actually SHARE the good news about Jesus? DO YOU WANT PINK RIBBONS DRAWN ONTO THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS?! I DON’T THINK SO!!

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CHARACTER SKIT

(continued)

Leader: But Chuck, the good news about Jesus is AMAZING! It’s the greatest truth the world has ever known! And, there are people out there STARVING for truth! They haven’t heard the good news of God’s love through Jesus yet!

CHUCK: Well, if they’re so HUNGRY for truth why don’t they just go out and get it themselves?

Leader: Well, maybe it’s because they need US to DELIVER the good news TO them!

CHUCK: DELIVER?? You mean like the newspaper boy?? *(mimes ringing a doorbell)* DING-DONG! Here’s your truth! That’ll be fifty cents, please!

Leader: *(laughs)* No, I mean we are to bring the GOOD NEWS of Jesus to them by our words and actions! Read your bible, learn from God, then tell the WHOLE WORLD about it! If Jesus has done something amazing in your life, don’t keep it to yourself! It’s way too amazing and BIG for just one person!

CHUCK: I guess that makes sense, but I’ll tell you one thing!

Leader: What’s that?

CHUCK: If I share this truth with anybody and my bible comes back with pink ribbons and hearts drawn all over it I’m holding YOU responsible!

Leader: You must be joking.

CHUCK: I’m not joking! I’m Chuck! CHUUUUUUUCK FOO! KICK IT!! *(Chuck’s theme music starts to play, Chuck kicks and karate chops the air wildly and exits)*



GAME ON!

“Bucket Heads”

Items Needed For Game:

two boys and two girls; six tennis balls; two small buckets

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Preparation:

Choose two boys and two girls to compete in this game.

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How To Play:

Choose one person from each team to be the “thrower” and one person from each team to be the “Bucket Head.” The “Bucket Heads” hold the bucket on top of their head. They are allowed to bend and sway, but their feet must remain planted on the ground. The “throwers” stand approximately eight to ten feet away from the “Bucket Heads.”

When you say, “Go!”, start some high energy music. The contestants have one minute to try to get all three balls in the bucket. If a ball misses the bucket, the “thrower” can run to retrieve it, but they must return to the “throwing line” before attempting to throw it in the bucket again. Once a ball lands in the bucket, it should remain there until the end of the game.

The first team to get all three balls in their bucket OR the team that has the MOST balls in their bucket at the end of the one minute countdown - is declared the winner!



Bible Story

“The Lepers Who Shared”

Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; the PowerPoint presentation for Lesson 1; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (as shown)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in 2 Kings 7; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

In the book of 2 Kings chapter 7, we find the story of four lepers. Lepers are people with the disease called “Leprosy.” It was a terrible disease that was very contagious. So, the people of the city would make the lepers stay outside the city walls by themselves. They were not allowed into the city at all. The people didn’t even treat the lepers like they were human beings. It was awful.

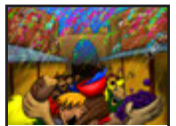
The particular city these lepers were from was called Samaria. Samaria was being attacked by a large army called the Arameans. The Arameans had set up camp outside Samaria and blocked the roads so that no one could leave and no one could enter Samaria. *(show pic)* The people had no food. People were dying of starvation. That’s where the lepers come in.

(show pic) The lepers said to themselves, “Why stay here and die? If we go into Samaria, we will die of starvation. If we sit here, we will die of starvation. We ought to at least go and offer ourselves to the Aramean army. Maybe they will give us some food. If not, we are going to die anyway.”

So, the lepers walked over to the camp of Arameans. When they got there, they got a huge surprise. They found that the entire camp was empty. Not a person around. Better yet, they had left ALL of their supplies and food behind.

The Bible says that God had made a large sound to frighten the Arameans. They thought they heard the sound of chariots and horses and a great army coming to attack them. So, they freaked out and ran off. *(show pic)* The lepers found the food and they ate and they ate and they ate. They went from tent to tent gathering food, gold, and all kinds of amazing things. There was more food than could ever have hoped to have – and they had it all to themselves. Then, one of the lepers spoke up...

(show pic) He said, “We are not doing the right thing. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves.” *(show pic)* So, the lepers ran to the city and told all the people about what they had found. The people came running out of the city, went to the Aramean camp and had the biggest feast you can ever imagine! Today, you are going to learn how WE can apply this story to our lives as Christians.





Call To Action

“Don’t Keep It To Yourself”

Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; an empty pizza box; a black permanent marker

Preparation:

Open the PowerPoint presentation on the Data Disc titled “Lesson One,” begin with the slide titled “Don’t Keep It To Yourself”; use the marker to write the word “JESUS” on the inside of the pizza box

The Message: *(title slide)*



Today, we have heard an incredible story from the Bible. The lepers in our story made a very important decision. They had discovered something amazing – food. Food is definitely amazing when you are dying of starvation.

These lepers decided that they couldn’t sit there eating all of this amazing food when an entire city is starving. Do you remember what they said? They said, “It’s not right for us to keep this to ourselves.” You know what? They were RIGHT!

They did the right thing by taking the GOOD NEWS of the food they had found to the starving people in the city. They didn’t have to. They could have kept it to themselves. But, they chose to share the GOOD NEWS with others. Because they did, many lives were saved. The lepers in this story remind me a lot of us.

We Have Been Given Some Amazing Good News *(slide)*



We have been given some amazing GOOD NEWS – it’s called the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have accepted Jesus as our Savior. He has forgiven our sins, and we are going to Heaven. This is the greatest single bit of news that the world has ever received. The sad thing is...

The World Is Starving For Truth *(slide)*



There is a whole world full of people who are STARVING – not for food, but for TRUTH. They haven’t heard the GOOD NEWS of God’s love yet. We have a big choice to make. Will we keep the GOOD NEWS to ourselves? Or will we be like the lepers and say, “It’s not right to keep this to ourselves?” We can’t just hear and receive, we MUST share. We can’t keep it to ourselves.

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Call To Action

(Continued)

We Must “Deliver” The Truth To The World *(slide)*

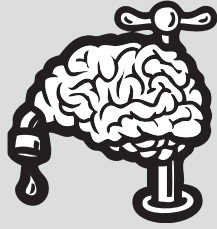


(hold up the pizza box - make sure it is closed) Have you ever been really really hungry, and then someone shows up with a nice, hot pizza? It is an amazing feeling, isn't it? You really appreciate that pizza delivery guy when he arrives, huh? Well, you and I are the “delivery people” when it comes to the rest of the world. What are we delivering? Not pizza, of course. *(open the box to reveal the word written inside)* We are delivering “JESUS” to the world.

Today, let's make a decision that we will be the ones to share the GOOD NEWS with the kids in our school, our family members who don't know Christ, and anyone we talk to. It's OUR job to share the GOOD NEWS. Let's ask God for boldness and power to share the GOOD NEWS of His love with the world!

ALTAR RESPONSE: *(play soft music)*

Pray with the children that they will NEVER keep the good news of God's love to themselves. Pray that they will be led by the Holy Spirit to the people who need to hear about Jesus the most. Pray that they will have the boldness to share every chance they get.



BRAIN DRAIN

Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; The DVD

Preparation:

Play the “Brain Drain” Video Intro off the DVD; Open the PowerPoint presentation on the Data Disc titled “Lesson One,” begin with the slide titled “Brain Drain”; there is a slide for each question

1. Watt’s Up today?

Answer: “I Will Share God’s Love With The World!”

2. What was the name of the “know it all” in our video today?

Answer: Noah Lottz

3. Who taught us our Power Verse today?

Answer: Ginny, the record keeper

4. What disease did the four men have in today’s Bible Story?

Answer: leprosy

5. When the lepers got to the Aramean camp, what did they find?

Answer: the camp was empty

6. What did the lepers decide to do about all the food they found?

Answer: share it

7. As Christians, what should we do with God’s “Good News?”

Answer: share it with others

8. If we don’t share the “Good News,” what may happen?

Answer: Others may not ever hear about God’s love

9. Should we share God’s “good news” even with those who treat us badly?

Answer: Yes

10. Where was today’s Power Verse found?

Answer: Mark 16:15

Small Group Experience

LESSON 1 - "Don't Keep It To Yourself!"



Watt's Up:

"I Will Share God's Love With The World!"



Power Verse:

"...Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere."

- Mark 16:15

Retelling The Bible Story

SUPPLY LIST:

* "The Good News Paper" Print Piece (provided; print one copy)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins, print one copy of, "The Good News Paper!" To re-tell the Bible story have the group sit in a circle. Give the Good News Paper to a student and have them read one verse. After they have read the verse they should share the good news (paper) with the person next to them. That person will also read one verse and pass the good news (paper) along until all of the verses have been read.

Say - "I am so excited for this new series! We get to take a closer look at Bible stories that aren't ones you might normally hear. The stories all have some crazy twist, but they are all straight from Gods word and full of truth for you and me to learn! I can't wait any longer, let's get started. I want you all to sit in a circle. In my hands I hold the brand new, hot off the press, Good News Paper! I am going to give the Good News Paper to one of you to read aloud. But wait, if we really want to follow the example in our story today we need to SHARE the good news. Let's do this instead; I will give the good newspaper to one of you to read aloud. Read the first verse only and then share the good news by passing it to the person next to you. They will read one verse aloud and then share the good news with the person next to them. We will continue on this way until all of the verses are read. Let's share the Good News!"

- Give one person the Good Newspaper and begin. -

Say - "The lepers had a choice to make. They were starving and found food, but they weren't the only ones in need. They had to choose whether or not they would keep the good news to themselves, or share it with others."

Ask - Do you think sharing was an easy choice for them to make?

Ask - Why do you think they shared the news of what they had found?

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Game/Activity

SUPPLY LIST:

- * “Good News Paper Game” Print Piece (*provided; print one per team*)
- * “Good News Letters” Print Piece (*provided; print one per team*)
- * Glue Sticks (*one per team*)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins print the Good News Paper piece and the Good News Letters. Cut out the letters placing each set of words into two piles to be used during activity time. Once activity time begins divide the group into two teams. Ask the review questions. If a team thinks they know the answer to a question they should raise their hands. Call on the first raised hand you see. If they answer correctly award them a letter from their pile and allow them to glue it to their headline. The team who fills in the most letters of the missing headline wins!

Say - “Newspapers are a tool to share stories and information with people everywhere. The headline of a story is there to give you a clue about what is in the article. The headline for our newspaper is missing! We are learning about sharing the Good News so let’s make that our headline. How do you fill in the headline? I am glad you asked! I am dividing you guys into teams. I have some review questions to ask. If your team thinks they know the answer raise your hands in the air. I will call on the first hands I see. Answer correctly and you will be awarded one letter which you may glue onto your headline. The team who fills in the most letters in the correct order from the missing headline wins!”

Q.What is leprosy?

A.*A disease that was very contagious*

Q.What city were the lepers from in today’s story?

A.*Samaria*

Q.Who attacked the city of Samaria?

A.*The Arameans*

Q.Were the people of Samaria able to get food and supplies?

A.*No*

Q.Who was starving?

A.*The lepers and the people of Samaria*

Q.Did the townspeople eat the lepers?

A.*No*

Q. What did the lepers see when they FIRST walked into the Aramean camp?

A.*No one, they were gone!*

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Q.What did the lepers find at the Aramean camp?

A. *Lots of food and supplies*

Q. Did the lepers share the news of what they had found with the people in the city?

A. YES!

Q.What was the Power Verse?

A. *“...Go into all the world and preach the good news to everyone, everywhere.” Mark 16:15*

Group Sharing

SUPPLY LIST:

- * “The Good News Paper Group Share” Print Piece (*provided; print one copy per kid*)
- * Pencils, Crayons, or Markers (*several for the group to share*)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before class begins cut out the Good News Paper Group Share print piece. Once small group begins give each kid a print piece and something to write with.

Ask - What is the headline of the article in this paper? Someone read it aloud.

Say - “Kids share the good news all over the world. That is an exciting headline!”

Ask - What kids do you think the headline is talking about?

Say - “That’s right! This isn’t just any headline; it’s a headline about you! God wants you to share the good news about Him with everyone. The lepers in our story had good news to share.”

Ask - Do you think the lepers might have been a little afraid to go to the city and share? Why?

Say - “It can be scary to share news with someone, especially when we don’t know how they will react. The lepers weren’t supposed to go to the city. They were different, sickly, and they were supposed to stay far away. I am sure they felt very nervous as they approached the city gates. Sometimes it can be a little scary for us to share the good news of God. We don’t know what our friends and family will think when we tell them the good news about the awesome God we have found!”

Ask - Has there ever been a time when you were nervous to tell someone about God? Would anyone like to share that experience with the group?

-Allow the kids time to share their experiences with the group-

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Say - “I think we have probably all had a moment when we were nervous to speak up about God. I am proud of every one who shared for being so open with us! I am so thankful that our awesome God didn’t just give us a job and no tools to make it happen! God doesn’t ask you to share about him and then give you no back up. He’s got your back! God is right there to help you fill in your story. Take a moment and read the verse printed at the bottom of your paper.”

-Allow the kid’s time to complete this task-

Ask - What are some ways God helps you share about him? Write your answers on the blanks in your paper.

Ask - Would anyone like to share what they wrote?

Prayer Time

Say - “The scripture in Deuteronomy reminds me that we have **COURAGE** and **BOLDNESS** that comes from having Jesus as our savior. The good news of God is something that we must share with others. Let’s pray that God will give us supernatural **COURAGE** and **BOLDNESS** to share his life changing love!” (PRAY)

Say - “It would have been easy for the lepers to make the choice to keep the food they found all to themselves. After all, it’s not like the people of the town had done anything to help them during their illness! They could have made that choice, but they didn’t! They made the right choice. Full of courage they went to the city and shared the good news. God used the lepers to meet the needs of the Samaritan people. God wants to use you to meet the needs of others too! We can have courage when we tell others this great news knowing that our loving God is right there with us every step of the way! Make the choice this week to share the good news; you’ll be glad you did!”

THE GOOD NEWS PAPER

The Lepers Who Shared



Now, there were four men with leprosy sitting at the entrance of the city gates. "Why should we sit here waiting to die? they asked each other. (2 Kings 7:3)

"We will starve if we stay here, but with the famine in the city, we will starve if we go back there. So we might as well go out and surrender to the Aramean army. If they let us live, so much the better. But if they kill us, we would have died anyway." (2 Kings 7:4)

So at twilight they set out for the camp of the Arameans. But when they came to the edge of the camp, no one was there! (2 Kings 7:5)

For the Lord had caused the Aramean army to hear the clatter of speeding chariots and the galloping of horses and the sounds of a great army approaching. "The king of Israel has hired the Hittites and Egyptiansto attack us!" they cried to one another. (2 Kings 7:6)

So they panicked and ran into the night, abandoning their tents, horses, donkeys, and everything else, as they fled for their lives. (2 Kings 7:7)

When the lepers arrived at the edge of the camp, they went into one tent after another, eating and drinking wine; and they carried off silver and gold and clothing and hid it. Finally, they said to each other, "This is not right. This is a day of good news, and we aren't sharing it with anyone! If we wait until morning, some calamity will certainly fall upon us. Come on, let's go back and tell the people at the palace." (2 Kings 7:8-9)

So they went back to the city and told the gatekeepers what had happened. "We went out to the Aramean camp," they said, "and no one was there! The horses and donkeys were tethered and the tents were all in order, but there wasn't a single person around!" Then the gatekeepers shouted the news to the people in the palace. (2 Kings 7:10-11)

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THE GOOD NEWS PAPER

KIDS SHARE GOOD NEWS ALL OVER THE WORLD!

“...go into all the world and preach the good news to everyone, everywhere.”

- Mark 16:15

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”

- Deuteronomy 31:6

G O O D

N E W S

G O O D

N E W S

G O O D

N E W S

Family Devotion

“Don’t Keep It To Yourself”



Watt’s Up:

“I Will Share God’s Love With The World!”



Power Verse:

“...Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere.” – Mark 16:15

Tell your children to imagine that they’re sick—so sick, in fact, that without help, they’ll die.

Ask them the following questions:

- How do you think you’d feel emotionally if you were this sick?
- What do you think you’d do to try to get better?

Then tell your children that someone told them about a new cure for their illness. Have them imagine that they’ve undergone treatment and now they’re perfectly healthy. Ask them the following questions:

- How would you feel emotionally once you were healed?
- How would you feel toward the person who told you about the cure?
- How would you feel toward the person who actually found the cure?
- How would you feel if you found out there was a cure and a friend had known about it but didn’t tell you?

Next, have your children imagine that a friend has come to them describing some symptoms that are very similar to the ones they had. After listening to this friend for awhile, they realize that he has the same disease that they did.

Talk about the following questions:

- Would you tell your friend about the cure? Why?
- What might happen to your friend if you don’t tell him about the cure?
- Can you force the person to undergo the treatment and take the medicine that will cure him?
- Why might the person refuse to do the things that will cure him? (*Maybe he doesn’t believe he’s really that sick, he’s afraid the treatment will hurt, he’s afraid of the side effects of the medicine, etc.*)
- Why would the person probably believe you when you told him about the cure?

Tell your children that all people have a disease that will eventually kill them: sin. Sin is a disease that everyone is born with, and unless we seek the “cure”—Jesus—we will die an eternal death and be separated from God and everything that’s good.

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Talk about the similarities between the disease they imagined they had and sin. Repeat some of the questions, substituting “sin” for the disease and “Jesus” for the cure. Then discuss the following questions:

- Why should we tell others about Jesus?
- Who should we tell about Jesus—just the people who do really bad things? Do people who do mostly good things need to hear about Him, too? Why? (*Everyone is born in sin so everyone needs to hear*)
- What’s one of the best ways to know whether or not a person knows Jesus? (*Talking to them and listening to what they say*)
- What’s our role in leading people to Jesus? (*Telling them about Him or bringing them to church so they can hear about Him—we can’t force anyone to accept Him*)
- If we don’t tell other people about Jesus, what might happen to them?

Tell your children that thinking about sin as a fatal disease will help them see the importance of telling others about Jesus. When they look at another person, they should remember that without Christ, this person is sick, dying, and will spend eternity in hell. Our job is to tell them about Jesus and show them Christ’s love, so they’ll know about the cure.

Pray with your family, asking God to open your eyes to the people around you who need to know about Him.