

Adventures with GOD!

THE DOCTOR LUKE (B.3.SPRING.1)

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| Biblical Reference | Luke 1:1-4 |
| Key Verse | John 21:25 |
| Key Concept | God prepares me for the task I will be given in at the time God determines. |
| Educational Objectives | At the end of the class today, children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Find information about Luke in the Bible and describe how God prepared him to write the Gospel of Luke 2. Define the word gospel 3. Explain and memorize the Key Verse |

Life Application

Although Luke did not personally meet Jesus, he knew much about him from the information passed on by the apostles. Inspired by the Holy Spirit and using information from interviews and sources from those who had been with Jesus, Luke wrote a gospel that details the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. God gave Luke a very important task. Today, God continues to prepare us for the special ways that God will use us to share the good news of Jesus with others. There are ideas in the introduction for how to decorate your room or prepare a timeline/mural that can be used throughout the trimester. The illustrations are in the appendix.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

| Activity | Materials | Time |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| My GROW Adventure | GROW Adventure materials | 5 minutes |
| Opening Prayer | Candle | 1 minute |
| Bible Reading | Bible | 5 minutes |
| Activity | Time machine | 15 minutes |
| Bible Exploration | Bible, figure, stethoscope, | 10 minutes |
| Key verse | Paper, scissors | 5 minutes |
| Craft | See instructions | 10 minutes |
| My GROW Adventure | Review | 5 minutes |
| Closing Prayer | Candle | 1 minute |

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INSTRUCTIONS

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter, take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials at CovChurch.org/children/adventures-with-god.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle, and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible we do that first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read Luke 1:1-4 two times and ask children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the passage?

Activity: Ask children if they have ever heard of a time machine. What is a time machine used for? Explain that they will help make a time machine, to help us hear the stories from the Gospel of Luke. The instructions for the time machine are found in the introduction to the trimester. You can use either a box (or multiple boxes) or a sheet. The children can decorate the time machine.

Once the time machine is built, ask them what types of noises the machine makes as they push the buttons and bring someone from the past into the present. The idea is to make this as "real" as possible. Allow children to use their creativity and imagination.

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Find a volunteer ahead of time who will come and be your “person from the past.” Inform the volunteer of the person they are representing, how they can share the Bible story with the children, etc. Questions from the children should be welcomed; both the teacher and the volunteer should be willing and ready to answer and engage children in dialogue.

Bible Exploration: The person featured in this week is Luke, the doctor, and the author of the Gospel of Luke. Before “Luke” comes out of the time machine, ask the children what they think the word “gospel” means. Allow them to share their ideas. Show children a newspaper and talk about the daily news, both good and bad, that is being communicated to us. The word, Gospel, means “good news.” Open your Bible and show them that there are four gospels in the New Testament. Explain that today you will have a special visitor from one of the authors of these gospels. Ask for a volunteer to press the buttons on the time machine and let the story begin.

A dialogue is included in the following pages, which can be presented between the Doctor Luke, the teacher, and the children. Have the questions printed out on paper and hand them out to some of the children. After the dialogue is finished, Luke can get back into the time machine and the children can say good-bye.

Key Verse: Together, open your Bibles and read the Key Verse together. Then, write out the Key Verse so they can be cut into phrases, according to the number of children in your group. Once the phrases are cut out, shuffle them and hand them out to children. Ask children to get in order and to read the verse together. After reciting the verse, choose a person or two to turn around and hide their portion of the verse. Together repeat the verse again. Have another person (or persons) turn around and once again say the verse together. Talk about how God prepared Luke to share the good news of Jesus with others. Invite children to think about the ways God might be preparing them for a special task, or for a particular time when they will share God’s good news with others.

Craft: Use this time to create a scene for your timeline/mural, which you will add to each week. Invite children to help create this scene. Also, give children time to make “scrolls” with the Key Verse. Give children paper, toilet paper rolls, glue, tape, pens, markers, etc.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G=God's Word: What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).



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R=Relationships: Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others. Give children a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

O=Outward Action: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

W=Worship: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? What would you like to say to God?

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle, explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

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BIBLE EXPLORATION

Dialogue with Dr. Luke

Luke: Good morning! I have been so looking forward to visiting you here (name of church or city/town).

Question 1: Who are you?

Luke: I am the author, who guided by God, wrote one of the gospels. Does anyone know what a gospel is?

Children answer

Luke: Excellent! You can look in the Bible to find the third gospel, which is the one I wrote and there you will find out who I am. I also wrote another book in the New Testament that comes after the Gospel of John.

(Let the children look in their Bibles and answer)

Luke: I am Luke, at your service.

Question 2: What do you do for a living?

Luke: I am a doctor. I love serving people and helping people who are sick. One of my favorite patients was the apostle Paul. Maybe you've heard of him.

Question 3: Why did Paul need a doctor?

Luke: For different reasons at different times. One time he was stoned, another time he was shipwrecked. He was beaten and whipped. I have had the privilege of helping Paul at different times.

Question 4: Did you know Jesus personally?

Luke: No, I never had the privilege of meeting him personally. I heard about Jesus through Paul. I traveled with Paul and we had a lot of time to talk and he would tell me what he knew of Jesus.

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Question 5: How did you know what to write about Jesus if you never talked with him personally?

Luke: Being a doctor has actually helped me to be a good historian – I’ve learned the importance of paying attention to detail. We are trained to be curious, to investigate and to uncover the truth. That is how when I started to hear stories about Jesus I became very curious about this man that people were calling the Messiah. So I began to investigate. I interviewed people and heard stories from people who had been with Jesus. Then it was God’s Spirit who guided me in writing the gospel.

Question 6: But in the Bible there are 4 gospels all with stories about the life of Jesus. Why do you think God chose you to write one?

Luke: The other others were Jewish. I am Greek. I believe God wanted to use me to help people who weren’t Jewish hear the good news of Jesus. All of the gospels are important, mine is not more or less important. We all have something to share about the way that God chose to send his son into the world.

Question 7: Was your gospel or the book of Acts written for a particular person or for a group of people?

Luke: To answer that question I want you to do some detective work. Read the introduction to the Gospel of Luke and the introduction to Acts and tell me what you discover.

(Have one child read Luke 1:1-4 and another read Acts 1:1-2)

Luke: Ok, what did you discover? Who did I write the gospel for and who helped me?

Children: Theophilus. The people who helped you were people who saw Christ from the beginning.

Luke: Who could have been the people who helped me learn about Jesus?

Children: disciples and family members

Luke: Why did I write the book?

Children answer (to put the events in the order they occurred.)

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Luke: In the weeks to come you will read and hear about the life of Jesus from the Gospel of Luke. You will discover that I have included important details about Jesus and Jesus' followers. But for now I must go. I want to leave you with one last thought. God wants to use each of you to share the good news of Jesus with others. You can't even imagine how God is preparing you or in what moments you will have the opportunity to share with others. Each one of you is important to God and Jesus showed us God's love in his death and resurrection. Jesus wants us to put our faith in him, just like the apostle Paul. Will you? Good-bye for now!